

Georgian Court University Magazine



#WhyImRunning
GCU Women Run for Office



Dear Alumni, Donors, Students, and Friends:

One of the best things about spring is that it brings us a sense of renewal and promise. Winter is finally behind us, there are lots of fun holidays and family gatherings to look forward to, and at Georgian Court, Commencement is right around the corner.

This spring edition of *GCU Magazine*, our first since 2012, is a window into the promise and the pride that we feel at Georgian Court. It shows in the feature about the dedication of our School of Education alumni and students (p. 10), including GCU senior Jess Singer, who's now a teacher intern in the classroom of her high school art teacher, Bobbi Allaire '84, '07.

We trust you will be proud to read about Thomas DiPaolo '12, who rearranged his Disney World wedding plans (p. 32) to include his ailing father living at a local nursing home. His story of compassion, a Mercy core value, made headlines and went viral.

We believe the story of Jessica Franklin '17, a recent nursing graduate who put her skills to use as a volunteer in India and Tanzania (p. 16), will resonate with you as well. Plus, the core value of service is also seen in the work of the GCU Lions men's soccer team (p. 30), which has helped needy families through Vincent's Legacy, and in the many examples of service you will find in our Endnote.

Just as important is our cover story on GCU women in politics (p. 2). They reflect the national trend of more women running for office, many of them spurred into action because of the political climate. They are paving the way for a new generation of leaders to serve, shape policy, and effect positive change in our communities with the Mercy core values of justice, integrity, and respect.

Again, spring is a time to celebrate all that is new in our lives—including our newest alumni, who will graduate in a matter of weeks. We will celebrate their achievements May 23 during traditional on-campus events (Baccalaureate Mass, awards ceremonies, photo ops at the Apollo Fountain), and May 24 at our 107th Commencement Ceremony.

This year, the Commencement Ceremony takes place in nearby Toms River at the RWJBarnabas Health Arena, a larger venue that allows graduates to have a few more tickets for their special guests. We are excited about all they have achieved. Soon, they will join the ranks of accomplished alumni and friends like you, giving us even more reason to share our GCU pride.

Go Lions!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph R. Marbach".

Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D.
President, Georgian Court University
P.S. Connect with me on Twitter at @DrJosephMarbach

Georgian Court

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Three Georgian Court alumnae who recently ran for office for the first time share their motivation and experience.



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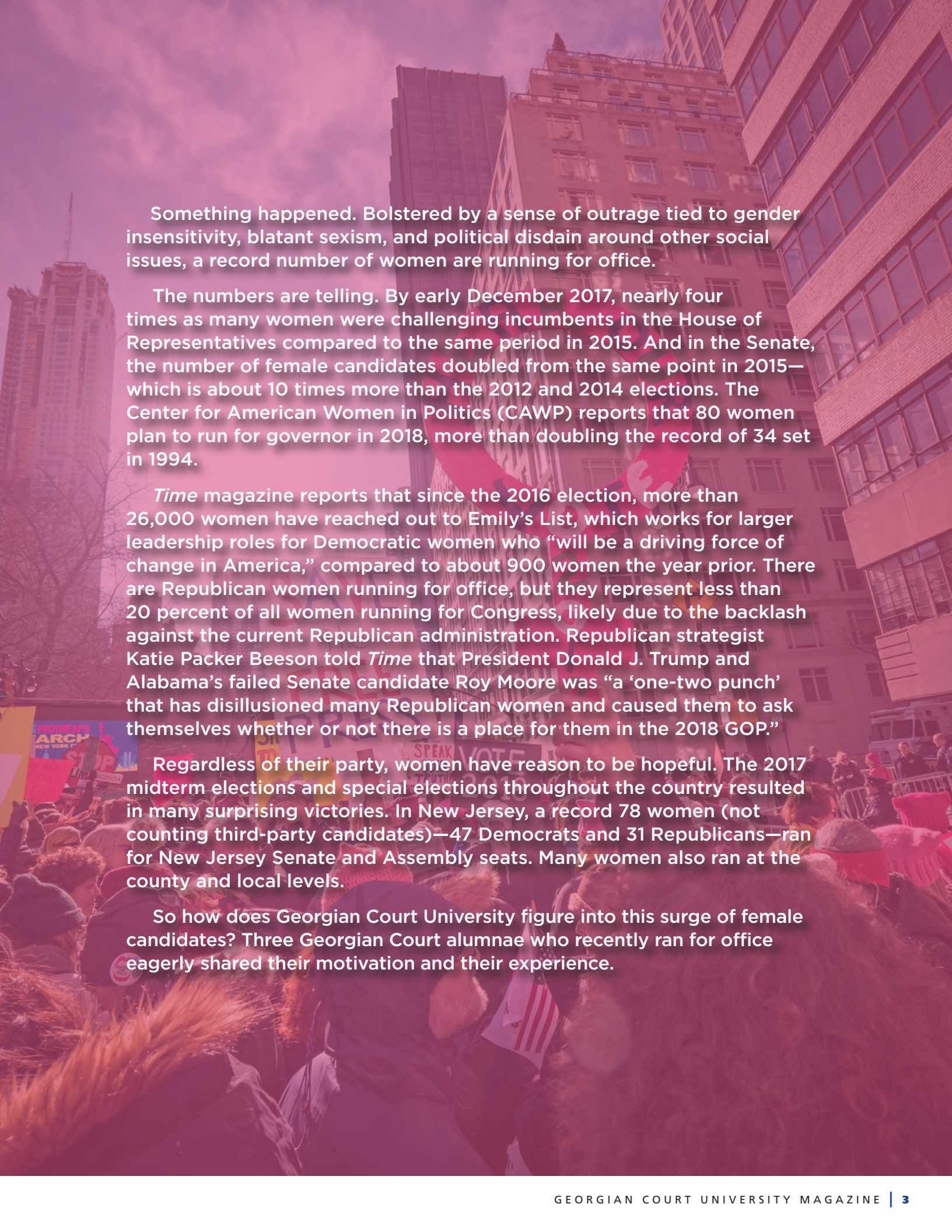
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#WhyImRunning

GCU Alumnae Join Ranks of More Women Running for Office

By Tara M. Strickland

On January 21, 2017, as many as 680,000 women (and some men and children, too), came together for the Women's March on Washington. It was likely the largest single-day demonstration in recorded U.S. history, according to the Washington Post. What's more, an estimated 5.2 million people participated in 653 marches nationwide. But the marches were just the beginning.



Something happened. Bolstered by a sense of outrage tied to gender insensitivity, blatant sexism, and political disdain around other social issues, a record number of women are running for office.

The numbers are telling. By early December 2017, nearly four times as many women were challenging incumbents in the House of Representatives compared to the same period in 2015. And in the Senate, the number of female candidates doubled from the same point in 2015—which is about 10 times more than the 2012 and 2014 elections. The Center for American Women in Politics (CAWP) reports that 80 women plan to run for governor in 2018, more than doubling the record of 34 set in 1994.

Time magazine reports that since the 2016 election, more than 26,000 women have reached out to Emily's List, which works for larger leadership roles for Democratic women who “will be a driving force of change in America,” compared to about 900 women the year prior. There are Republican women running for office, but they represent less than 20 percent of all women running for Congress, likely due to the backlash against the current Republican administration. Republican strategist Katie Packer Beeson told *Time* that President Donald J. Trump and Alabama's failed Senate candidate Roy Moore was “a ‘one-two punch’ that has disillusioned many Republican women and caused them to ask themselves whether or not there is a place for them in the 2018 GOP.”

Regardless of their party, women have reason to be hopeful. The 2017 midterm elections and special elections throughout the country resulted in many surprising victories. In New Jersey, a record 78 women (not counting third-party candidates)—47 Democrats and 31 Republicans—ran for New Jersey Senate and Assembly seats. Many women also ran at the county and local levels.

So how does Georgian Court University figure into this surge of female candidates? Three Georgian Court alumnae who recently ran for office eagerly shared their motivation and their experience.

Aiming High: Jill Dobrowansky, Ed.D., '05

Manahawkin resident and lifelong educator Jill Dobrowansky, 48, recently earned her Ed.D. at Rutgers University. She also just completed a 2017 campaign for New Jersey State Assembly in the 9th Legislative District, where she and running partner Ryan Young and New Jersey State Senate candidate Brian White took on three Republican incumbents. It was one of many challenges they would face.

"The greatest advantage is being the incumbent, and the chances of incumbents winning are much higher than the norm," says Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D., GCU president and political scientist.

The second challenge: the heavily Republican-leaning district has not seen a Democrat in office since 1985. Ms. Dobrowansky and her fellow Democrats were unsuccessful, but the results of their run for office were interesting.

"One of the things that I am proud of is that I won several precincts and several districts that a Democrat hasn't won before, let alone a woman," says Ms. Dobrowansky. "For example, Galloway Township—

it's part of Atlantic County, but it's also part of our 9th Legislative District. I won down there . . . a woman and a Democrat have not done that in a very long time."

The proud New Jersey native, mother, and wife sought public office because of her passion for public education. She received her second master's degree, an M.A. in Administration and Leadership from GCU in 2005, and she's served as a middle school teacher, vice principal, principal, supervisor, and director of curriculum and instruction in districts like Lakewood, Lakehurst, and Wall Township. She became an independent education consultant so that she could focus on finishing her dissertation, but is eager to return to the field.

"For quite a number of years, our profession was really called into question. That really energized me to want to get involved, because I lived it; I experienced it," says Ms. Dobrowansky, who was endorsed by the New Jersey Education Association (NJEA). "[We] need to change that public dialogue about what education is, what education can be, and how far our educators and support staff really do go. I really wanted to bring that perspective out there, give a voice to our educators, and start having those conversations with the taxpayers and citizens of the state."



Jill Dobrowansky '05 (second from left) participated in a town hall moderated by Jesse Ehrnstrom (right) with her running mates Brian White, Senate candidate (left) and Ryan Young, Assembly candidate (second from right).

Ms. Dobrowansky, who prepared for her campaign with online courses offered by Emily's List and workshops run by the National Organization for Women and the NJEA, will stay involved as an activist. She plans to run again in the future.

"We're almost at this tipping point where we have been either silent or our voices have been disregarded for far too long," she says of the surge in female candidates. "It's important for women to get involved at all levels and make sure that their voices—no matter what your political opinions are, no matter what party you align with—and the voices of our children that are underrepresented are heard."

Challenging an Incumbent: Ashley Bennett '10

"Offend a woman and she might run for your political seat," the Philly.com headline read in March 2017 after Ashley Bennett, now 33, said she would challenge Republican John Carman for his seat on the Atlantic County Board of Freeholders. Her announcement came after the then-freeholder posted a derogatory meme on Facebook in late 2016. The meme asked if the Women's March would be over in time for the women to cook

dinner; he added the comment, "Just asking."

After Ms. Bennett saw the meme, she wrote Mr. Carman a letter, "outlining all the things that I saw in Atlantic County, the challenges, and asking how he had time to be on social media," she says. "I did not get a response back, so I decided to go to our local freeholder meeting."

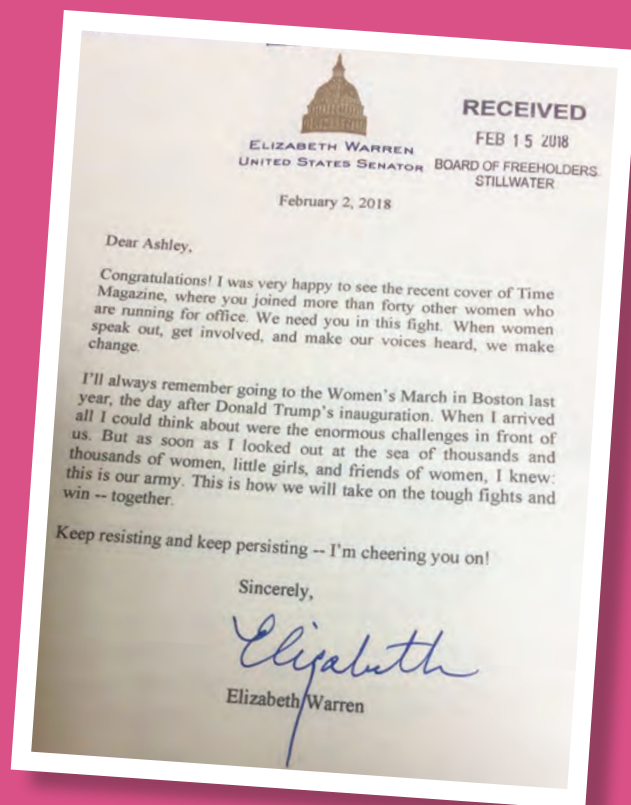
The lines were out the door when Ms. Bennett arrived at the normally sparsely attended freeholder meeting on January 24. Women, armed with takeout menus, boxes of macaroni and cheese, and other items, made impassioned statements, but the freeholder failed to apologize, and most of the women walked out in anger.

"It's easy to be angry and express your views on social media and talk about it with your friends and your close circle, and that's all you do," she says. "But it's important to actually be engaged in your own community." She and a friend got involved with their local Democratic Party. "All politics starts local," she explains. "If you want to start change, start it on a local level and then watch it grow."

Ms. Bennett, a psychiatric emergency screener at Cape Regional Hospital—she earned her M.A. in Counseling Psychology from GCU—expected the party to look askance at her age and lack of political experience. But



Ms. Dobrowansky met many potential constituents on the campaign trail, including this boy and his dog, at one of her outdoor campaign events.



Freeholder Bennett received a letter of congratulations from Massachusetts Senator Elizabeth Warren.

they embraced her, and she ran unopposed in the primary. She also found assistance from Run for Something, which recruits and supports “young diverse progressives to run for down-ballot races in order to build a bench for the future.”

To focus on the campaign, she took time off from working on her second master’s degree in business administration and public health. Campaigning was hard, but having strong supporters helped.

“Being a candidate is challenging, but it’s more so if you don’t have a good support system. I was very fortunate enough to have coworkers, family members, and friends who were a supportive system,” she says. “I even had my own small core team of five—none of us had worked on a campaign before—but collectively, we did this together.”

Running against an incumbent in a historically Republican district made it an uphill battle. But she also points out the positives: she grew up in Atlantic County, still lives there, and she’s “a daughter” of her community. As she campaigned, she knocked on doors of former



Freeholder Bennett met former Vice President Joe Biden at the 2018 Democratic Caucus Issues Conference in Washington, DC, in February.

teachers, classmates, and other people she was connected to outside of politics. Her ability to focus on important issues in her area—developing the economy by diversifying income and tourism in the Atlantic City area, addressing the mental health and opioid epidemic, retraining the workforce, and ensuring quality education for young people—helped her find victory.

She was speechless when she won by more than 500 votes.

Since then, she has spoken to hundreds of thousands at the 2018 Women’s March in New York City, has been featured on *The View*

in an interview with Whoopi Goldberg, and was one of the faces on the cover of *Time* magazine. The January 29 cover story explored women getting involved in politics.

“It’s just time,” Freeholder Bennett says. “It’s time for there to be equal representation. It’s time for us to have a seat at the table. You don’t necessarily have to have all this experience, be a certain age or a certain gender, or come from a certain background. You can do whatever it is you want to do.”



Freeholder Bennett met actress and community activist Rosie Perez (left) at the 2018 Women’s March in New York City. Photo: Caseen Gaines

Engaging in Firsts: Deana Rodgers Gunn '96

Deana Rodgers Gunn, 44, is no stranger to big life changes. After earning a B.S. in Business Administration from Georgian Court, she worked in financial services for almost eight years before taking time off to raise her children, now 10 and 13. During that time, she had a personal health crisis.

"For months, I went from one specialist to another in an attempt to find out what was causing my symptoms. It was really frustrating because I could not get an answer," says Ms. Gunn, a resident of Matawan. "While working with an integrative doctor, I was finally diagnosed with an autoimmune disease. With dietary and lifestyle changes, I was able to heal myself. I felt better, got out of pain, and was energized again."

That health crisis led to a new career. Fascinated by how small changes in diet affect health and emotion, she went back to school and became a certified health coach. In 2015, she started Three Kinds of Kale LLC, to help other women "take their power back through dietary and lifestyle changes."

Still, Ms. Gunn was frustrated and fearful after the 2016 election. She attended the Women's March in Washington, and came home "inspired and excited." She had the opportunity to work on her town's Planning and Zoning Board, and followed up by running for Matawan's Borough Council.

"As a coach, I know that action is the antidote to fear and frustration. I knew I had to do something and wanted to be engaged in the political process," says Ms. Gunn. "I realized that it all starts at the local level. My town was becoming rundown and neglected, and I was tired of empty promises. When the opportunity presented itself, I decided to take a leap of faith."

That leap paid off. She and another woman, Stephanie Buckel, challenged two male Republican incumbents—and won.

"We knocked on over 1,200 doors! Our goals were to get our message out through face-to-face conversations and to out-walk our opponents," says Councilwoman Gunn, emphasizing the importance of personal contact with voters. "Now more than ever, people want to hear from their government. They want transparency, to feel heard, and to know their elected officials are working for them."



Freeholder Bennett was also interviewed by The View cohort Whoopi Goldberg (right) at the 2018 Women's March in New York City. Photo: Caseen Gaines



Matawan Borough Councilman Brett Cannon (left) and former Councilman Michael Vergaretti (right) helped now-Councilwomen Rodgers (second from left) and Stephanie Buckel (second from right) campaign door to door.

"In light of the recent #MeToo movement, I think women are fed up," she says. "They want to stand up and speak out, not only for themselves, but for one another and for future generations. We don't want to go backwards or be marginalized. We comprise half the population, so why don't have that representation in government?"

"As someone who is a big believer in action, I find it exciting and inspiring to witness this shift," Councilwoman Gunn adds, noting that she also wanted to show her children how important it is to get involved. "I know I feel empowered, and I think others do too."

The Decade of the Woman?

Many of the women running today have a much different perspective on political office, a reflection of the "frustration at a nonresponsive government of career politicians who seem to care more about donors than the needs of ordinary families," journalist Charlotte Alter wrote in *Time*. GCU's President Marbach notes that, culturally, in places like New Jersey and other mid-Atlantic states, "politics is transactional. It's not a calling; it's not something you do for the greater good.

You do it for personal gain and maybe a little bit on the public side.

"I think that many women who are emerging as first-time candidates are not part of this culture and don't see it as a career; they see it more as public service, or they're motivated by something that's outraged them," he adds. "They're looking to make a difference, rather than to make a buck."

Whether they're fighting for other women with health issues, autistic adults and special needs students, or people suffering from mental health disorders or addictions, GCU women in office are putting their talent to work for others.

"When ordinary people stand up for what they believe; when they come together around a common purpose and a true desire to lift up everyone in the community, extraordinary things happen," Freeholder Bennett said in her speech at the most recent Women's March, noting that 2018 has been called the "Year of Women." She added, "It's about time women use [their] voices, not just online, but in our workplaces, in our classrooms, and at our kitchen table."

But the move toward equal gender representation in American politics will not happen overnight, or even



Councilwoman Deana Gunn '96 was invited to the signing ceremony for newly elected New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy's executive order for the state's re-entry into the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI).

in one year. As Dr. Marbach notes, challengers face stiff competition from incumbent politicians. For an example of why this is important, consider the 78 women who ran for New Jersey state legislature in the fall and 35 who were elected: 31 of them were incumbents and 4 ran for open seats. No female challengers succeeded. Still, the #MeToo movement may prove influential in years to come, as male politicians ensnared by poor past behavior leave office and create a void.

"There are limited political opportunities in each election cycle," says Kelly Dittmar, Ph.D., an assistant professor of political science at Rutgers University–Camden and scholar at the Center for American Women and Politics. "It's unlikely that women will bust all trends in any one year . . . but strategically planning for the decade of the woman is not a bad idea."

Worth Reading

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TEACHING AND LEARNING— AT THE SAME TIME

By Gail H. Towns

In addition to teaching art, Bobbi Allaire '84, '07 is the director of the spring musical and the National Art Honor Society advisor at Jackson Memorial High School. Each summer, she travels to Europe with students to take in art masterpieces in person.

It's just after 8:00 AM in Bobbi Allaire's classroom as nearly 20 teenagers take their seats. The veteran teacher talks with a few who are working on pop art portraits. Other students gaze curiously at the 80-inch whiteboard, where Michelangelo's *Pieta* is projected. And a few stragglers, hungry, reach for an oversized jar of animal crackers on the teacher's desk.

Quickly, GCU education major Jess Singer '18 calls the class to attention. Soon there is talk of scale, contour, composition, and questions—lots of questions—about Michelangelo's use of artistic devices.

Welcome to Art Fundamentals at Jackson Memorial High School, where the experienced educator and the teacher intern, both influenced by the GCU School of Education, embody the art and science of helping students learn.



GCU senior Jess Singer (center left) and Bobbi (center right) work with art students.

LIMITLESS CREATIVITY

So why do LEGO® characters line the classroom walls? Drawing on *The LEGO Batman Movie* for inspiration, Bobbi challenged students to reimagine their personal heroes as LEGO characters. The result is a block figure collage of coaches, first responders, family members, BFFs, and a few teachers, too.

"You have to keep things relevant for kids. You can teach traditional approaches, but you have to find subject matter and methods of reaching your goals that are exciting for kids," says Bobbi, who earned her undergraduate degree in 1984 and her master's degree in 2007, both at Georgian Court. "They have to be able to relate to what you want them to learn.

"There are those who say I'm all about turning art on its head, but I'm purposeful about that," Bobbi explains. "Back when

I taught elementary school, I gave them Cabbage Patch Kids to design as I was teaching them proportion and character. I did the same thing with Care Bears, Monster energy drink cans, and Snapple®.

"What we teach is only limited to the creativity and ambition of the teacher," adds Bobbi, who is typically at school from 7:00 AM to 6:00 PM, especially when she is directing and managing set design. Beyond her classroom duties, she lends her talent to performances like *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Into the Woods*, *The Music Man*, and *Les Misérables*.

"For today's students, Andy Warhol may be history, but they don't realize history repeats itself. Teaching is about making connections and teaching kids how to make connections."



Nick Lorusso '15 (second from right) works with STEM students.

Different Path, Same Destination

Nick Lorusso '15 thought he wanted to be a surgeon, but after earning a B.S. in Biology from the University of Tampa, he changed his mind.

"I could do lab work, but for me that wasn't going to be fulfilling," he explains. "Someone suggested that I consider teaching and the truth is, it was always something that I loved."

Nick grew up around teachers, including his mother, Pat Lorusso. The veteran educator served in classroom and administrative roles before joining GCU as director of field experiences and clinical partnerships. When her son left Florida, she encouraged him to consider GCU's teacher certification program.

He enrolled, but it wasn't easy—in fact, Nick describes it as "one tough year of taking six-hour classes and working at the same time. It was a lot of work, but getting through it was worth it."

Today, Nick is the go-to STEM teacher at Keansburg High School. His classes include biology and courses that integrate engineering, science, math, Web site development, and coding.

Not all of his students are immediately drawn to such intense subjects, but eventually they come around. "I found that I can take the kid with absolutely no interest, the one who never thought they would enjoy science, and engage them," says Nick.

"This brings me back to my roots," he adds. "I love to understand how and why things work. Science is always changing, and there's always something new to teach, to learn, to know."

SAGE ADVICE

Jess Singer

For aspiring teachers: *"This job requires long hours you may not initially think of when choosing this path. But if you're in it for the kids and the passion of the content you choose, then go for it and work for it . . . it's going to be worth it. If you're in this for summers and weekends off, then I suggest you switch your major before it's too late."*

Bobbi Allaire

For veteran educators: *"Once you leave the passion behind, you need to leave the classroom. If you don't love what you're doing, kids know. For those 80 minutes a day, if you're distracted, they don't feel like you're in tune with them. You have to love the learning process. You have to love the infusion of adventure and the quest for excitement in everyday things. You have to love kids. At times they're ridiculous, they're over the top, they're dramatic—but that's how we become who we are going to be. It's part of the journey to becoming."*

In Education, Change Is Constant

Connecting with students is a daily priority for teachers, even as educators must comply with dramatic changes in public policy, assessment, school funding, special education, and other issues. The field has seen dramatic changes in the last few years, including the new requirements for emerging teachers like Jess and extremely high standards for teacher preparation programs. GCU Dean of Education Lynn DeCapua, Ph.D., '83 believes an intense focus on accountability is the biggest driver of change.

"The passing of No Child Left Behind in 2002 with the goal of increasing student achievement, followed by Race to the Top in 2008 to incentivize school districts to reform their finances, had an impact on both K–12 education and teacher preparation," says Dean DeCapua. "Similarly, certain standards for accrediting teacher preparation have led to extensive use of standardized tests and licensure exams to measure candidates' content knowledge and pedagogical skills."

In addition to passing the PRAXIS exam, education majors participate in edTPA, a national teacher performance assessment program. It requires them to "demonstrate what they can and will do on the job, translating into practice what research shows improves learning."

But wait. There's more. Value-added measures, an increased focus on diversity, and evolving technology are matters today's teachers must address.

"There is an emphasis on preparing candidates to teach diverse

student learning needs (e.g., English language learners) and to be sensitive to multicultural needs," Dean DeCapua adds. "Plus, we must recruit diverse teacher candidates to serve as role models. And lastly, effective use of technology is essential."

Teaching and Learning— at the Same Time

Jess Singer, who was once a student of Bobbi Allaire, knows what she signed up for. Becoming an educator isn't easy, and time management can be a challenge for anyone, let alone a part-time student who is student-teaching and coaching two cheerleading teams full time and working a part-time weekend job. But Jess's love for the field is a testament to the power of great teaching.

"In high school, I was never a great academic student (I blame my artistic mind for poor test-taking skills!), but when Mrs. Allaire encouraged me to take studio art classes, I felt like I had a purpose," says Jess. "She was my support in high school, and I want to be that person for my students."

These days, Jess is reflective about her journey.

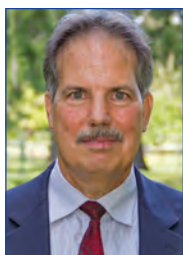
"I firmly believe that when you sign up to be a teacher, you sign up to be a student for life," Jess says. "My students teach me something every day—whether that be something new that I didn't know, or something about myself and my teaching."

"Everything I know, I know because of Mrs. Allaire," she adds. "She was my teacher all four years of high school and has been my rock throughout all of college. I have learned so much from her."



"I firmly believe that when you sign up to be a teacher, you sign up to be a student for life," says Jess (center).

New Faculty at GCU



Christopher Campisano, Ed.D., joined the full-time faculty of the School of Education in the fall as a visiting professor. He most recently served as the director of the Program in Teacher Preparation at Princeton University. Dr. Campisano also served as the coordinator of higher education programs for the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) Office of Professional Standards, Licensing, and Higher Education

Collaboration and as an education program development specialist for the Camden County Office of the NJDOE. He holds an Ed.D. from Teachers College of Columbia University.



Karen Kelly, Ph.D., joined the full-time faculty of the School of Arts and Sciences this fall as a visiting assistant professor of psychology. She most recently served as an assistant professor at Montclair State University. She previously served as an adjunct professor at Barnard College, Columbia University, Seton Hall University, and William Paterson University. She has coauthored a number of articles in peer-reviewed journals.

Dr. Kelly holds a Ph.D. in Psychology from Columbia University.



Vincent C. W. Chen, Ph.D., joined the full-time faculty of the School of Arts and Sciences last fall as an assistant professor of exercise science. He previously served as an instructor at Texas A&M University, where he earned his Ph.D. in Health and Kinesiology. His research focuses on exercise physiology, muscle biology, and nutrition and has been published in several scientific journals.

Dr. Chen is also the co-founder of and chief designer for PrepFlash Inc., a technology company developing artificial intelligence for education.



Deborah Kennard, RN, BC, joined the full-time faculty of the Georgian Court–Hackensack Meridian *Health* School of Nursing this fall as an assistant professor. She previously served as an assistant professor at Kean University, where she was also the co-coordinator of the Kean–Ocean undergraduate nursing program. She has worked as a nursing director and administrator at medical centers for more than 10 years, and has more than

20 years of nursing experience. Dr. Kennard holds a Ph.D. in Nursing from Seton Hall University.



Michelle Esposito, Ph.D., joined the full-time faculty of the School of Arts and Sciences in the fall as an assistant professor of biology. She previously served as an adjunct lecturer and assistant professor at the College of Staten Island and Macaulay Honors College, The City University of New York (CUNY), and as an adjunct assistant professor at Wagner College. She has experience in laboratory research of molecular and environmental

science, and microbiology. Dr. Esposito holds a Ph.D. in Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology from The Graduate Center (CUNY).



Jinsook Kim, Ph.D., joined the full-time faculty of the School of Business and Digital Media this fall as an assistant professor of graphic design and multimedia. She previously served as an associate professor at Trinity Christian College in Illinois. She has over 20 years of experience as a communication design specialist with 10 years of experience as a motion design researcher, and she has taught design courses at universities since 2008.

Dr. Kim holds a Ph.D. in Design from the Institute of Design at the Illinois Institute of Technology.



Sherritta Hughes, Ph.D., LPC, joined the full-time faculty of the School of Arts and Sciences in the fall as an assistant professor of psychology, after serving as a lecturer for the previous year. She has served as an adjunct professor at The Chicago School of Professional Psychology in Washington, D.C.; Calhoun Community College in Decatur, Alabama; and Monmouth University.

She is a licensed professional counselor and approved clinical supervisor who has worked in a variety of health settings. Dr. Hughes earned her Ph.D. from The Chicago School of Professional Psychology.



Bonnie J. Ross, Ed.D., RN, CNE, joined the Georgian Court–Hackensack Meridian *Health* School of Nursing this fall as a visiting assistant professor. She also serves as the department chair and an associate professor of nursing at Brookdale Community College. She is a registered nurse and certified nurse educator with more than 30 years of experience in a variety of health and educational settings. Dr. Ross holds an Ed.D. in Educational

Leadership from Rowan University.

GCU's Criminal Justice Program: Changing for Today's World

By Sanford Josephson

As the field of criminal justice sees dramatic changes, higher education programs must keep pace, says Anna King, Ph.D., chair of the newly renamed Department of Criminal Justice, Anthropology, Sociology, and Human Rights. Dr. King and the department faculty are working to make curriculum changes and adding new programs to prepare students for careers in the evolving field of criminal justice.

Transitioning the Graduate Program

Marny Requa, J.D., associate professor of criminal justice, led the transition in the graduate program from the M.S. in Homeland Security to the M.A. in Criminal Justice and Human Rights. The study of homeland security had a social justice and human rights element to it, she explains, but changing the major to human rights fits better with the university's Mercy core values of respect, integrity, justice, compassion, and service. Dr. Requa identified two of the required courses as fundamental to the changeover: Theory and Practice in Criminology, which is rooted in the social sciences, and Criminal Justice and Society, which focuses on human rights law and policing.

The new master's degree program culminates in a series of research methods and designs leading to a capstone, Dr. Requa adds. The department is doing a soft launch of the new program this year as the university transitions and remaining students complete the M.S. degree.

Providing Focus for Undergraduates

The B.A. in Criminal Justice is a multidisciplinary program with 42 of the 120 credits in General Education courses. Since the area of study was quite large, the department aimed to provide areas of concentration, according to Melanie Mogavero, Ph.D., assistant professor of criminal justice. "We conducted a survey of students and based on that, developed two new areas of concentration: Law Enforcement and Corrections and Global Justice and Society," says Dr. Mogavero. "These are two important career paths." The two concentrations were also added as minors.

Dr. King also notes another new opportunity is planned for undergraduates: a 4+1 program to enable them to earn their B.A. and M.A. in five years. There's no firm start date yet, but current and potential students are keen on the idea.

Growing the Internship Program

Internships are an important component of GCU's program. "Guiding students on the right career path is vitally important," says Dr. King. "While internships are not a component at every school's criminal justice program, they are a key element here at Georgian Court."

"We help students to start preparing for a career in their sophomore year," says Matthew Sheridan, Ed.D., instructor and coordinator of the internship program. Students have opportunities to work in areas of law enforcement at the



Standing, left to right: Matthew Sheridan, Cynthia Ninivaggi, Joseph Pascarella. Seated, left to right: Anna King, Melanie Mogavero, Marny Requa.

local, state, and federal level, as well as in related areas of employment that are not necessarily part of the criminal justice system. Organizations offering internships to GCU students include the New Jersey State Police, New Jersey Association of Corrections, the Glen Mills Schools in Pennsylvania, local police departments, sheriffs' and prosecutors' offices in Monmouth and Ocean counties, and immigration law offices.

Teaching Law Enforcement Officers Online

This semester, GCU launched an online program designed for police officers who have college credits, but have not completed a bachelor's degree. The program is headed by Joseph Pascarella, Ph.D., a former captain in the New York Police Department and Fulbright Scholar. Each term is 7.5-weeks long, and students take two courses each term, for a total of four classes (12 credits) a semester.

Finding the Interdisciplinary Links

Faculty members emphasize the importance of combining several academic disciplines. For example, Cynthia Ninivaggi, Ph.D., professor of anthropology and women's studies, recently created the course Anthropology of Disasters, which she believes is of critical importance to criminal justice majors. Disasters, she says, "throw a spotlight on law enforcement's relations with the local community, the government, and the military. Disasters offer surprising lessons about human behavior in the face of risk and about the true nature of hazard."

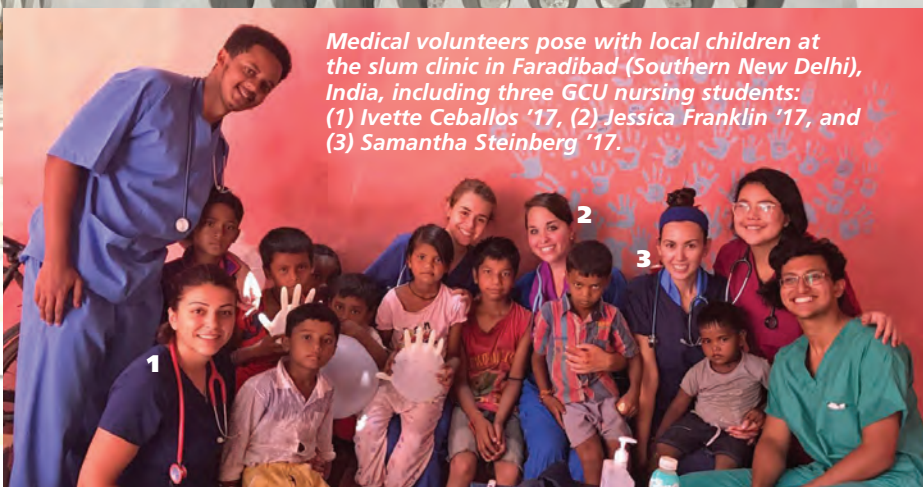
Some criminal justice majors are pursuing minors in politics, law, and history. The Department of World Languages and Cultures even teaches Spanish for law enforcement.

"Criminal justice is changing quickly," says Dr. King. "The program started in 2005, and we have to match what is happening in the world today."

Perspectives & Presence: Nursing Lessons Learned Abroad

By Gwen Moran

Jessica visited the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, while volunteering.



When newly minted nurse Jessica Franklin works with patients in the future, she says she'll be carrying a little bit of the far-off countries of India and Tanzania with her. Jessica, who graduated from Georgian Court University in December 2017 as part of the accelerated B.S.N. program, studied overseas in those countries, which left an indelible mark on her.



"I've always been a bit of a caretaker," Jessica says. From taking care of her younger sister, who is disabled, to working on charitable fund-raisers and community service projects through participation in groups like GCU's Women in Leadership Development (WILD) and Eastern Star, Jessica says she has always been drawn to helping others. However, it was when she began her studies at Brookdale Community College and took the Myers-Briggs personality assessment test that she realized how well-suited she was to a career in health care. She began taking health care-related classes and knew that she would love being a nurse.

After she completed her liberal arts degree at Brookdale, it was time to look for a transfer program. Jessica says that Georgian Court was an obvious choice. She lives in Hazlet, so she was able to take some courses at the local GCU extension there. The fact that Georgian Court is affiliated with Hackensack Meridian Health was a big plus, as well. When the competitive program not only accepted her, but allowed her to transfer 79 credits, she made the move to Georgian Court.

Another appealing component of Georgian Court's program was that it challenged students to travel and study abroad, she says. While going for a whole semester wasn't an option for Jessica, she used breaks and summers to volunteer as a student nurse. The study-abroad team at Georgian Court referred her to International Volunteer HQ (IVHQ), a third-party organization that offers a

wide variety of programs in medical, veterinary, education, and other forms of volunteering.

Jessica chose to volunteer in remote regions that lacked infrastructure and dealt with extreme poverty and other issues. "I really like challenging myself outside of my comfort zone," she says. "I think that's what drew me—knowing that I was going to someplace really rugged that was going to be a bit of a challenge."

The sparse accommodations and limited access to health care were eye-opening, Jessica says. Her travel to Tanzania in Africa and to India has given her the ability to adapt to cultural differences and connect with people on a different level. She took advantage of her time abroad to travel beyond her volunteer assignments, including a visit to Zanzibar for a four-day safari.

Her commitment to travel to these regions also contributed to her winning the Mercy Core Values Award at her nursing pinning ceremony in December. "Taking what I learned in the classroom and sharing it abroad, to me, seemed like a no-brainer. But I guess they saw it as such a rare thing," she says.

Jessica is currently working as a nursing tech at Bayshore Community Hospital in Holmdel until she passes her state boards. At that time, she can apply to be a registered nurse. She hopes to remain in the area, where her roots are. But she'll always carry the experiences and memories of her travel abroad.

"I think traveling has given me so much perspective on listening and being able to be present for people of different backgrounds," she says. "I love being able to talk to people, like Indian patients, and say, 'Oh, I've been to India, and I know your country,' and we're able to connect on that level. Having that moment of understanding of where someone comes from is powerful."

Police Chief Ed Deveau: Going Beyond Anything He'd Trained For

By Sanford Josephson

As chief of the Watertown Police Department in Massachusetts, Ed Deveau led state police, federal agencies, and community police officers on Friday, April 19, 2013, in the 20-hour search for Dzhokhar Tsarnaev. That was four days after Dzhokhar and his brother Tamerlan planted two bombs that exploded near the finish line of the Boston Marathon, killing three people and injuring several others.

Chief Deveau, now retired, shared the dramatic story to a rapt audience in GCU's Casino Auditorium on October 26. He led the audience, which included members of local law enforcement, criminal justice students and faculty, and GCU security, through a progression of the manhunt and how he responded to a scenario no one could have imagined.

At 5:00 PM on April 18, the FBI had released photos of Dzhokhar and Tamerlan. The decision to release the photos, Deveau told his GCU audience, was controversial.

"The Boston police desperately wanted to release the pictures," he said, "but the FBI said no. Eddie Davis, the Boston police commissioner said, 'I want to know who's making this decision; who's responsible if someone gets hurt.' An hour later, the FBI released the pictures."

At 10:30 PM, the brothers shot and killed Sean Collier, a police officer on MIT's Cambridge campus. They were first spotted in Watertown by local police officer Joey Reynolds, who was soon joined by fellow officer John McClellan, and, for about four minutes, they were the only law enforcement officers on a little side street. Then, the call went out: "Anybody on duty, go to Watertown."

Chief Deveau was home when he answered his phone around midnight to hear: "They're shooting at us. These are the guys who killed the MIT officer." By the time he reached the scene, he recalled that "there were hundreds of police officers in Watertown. The older brother had been shot and died at the hospital. So, now we start the manhunt for the younger brother."

The manhunt for the Boston Marathon bombers was "way beyond anything I'd trained for," Chief Deveau said, adding that he realized "you reach a moment when everybody's looking at you. You have to take charge, or somebody else will." One of the actions he took to catch Dzhokhar Tsarnaev was activating reverse 911 phone calls to tell Watertown residents to shelter in place and to look out for their neighbors.

"I said, 'We need a snow day without the snow.' We told people to stay home and shelter in place, and people really bought into that." At 5:00 PM, the lockdown was lifted, and, shortly afterward, local resident David Henneberry went outside to check on his boat in the backyard and noticed blood inside; he alerted police that Tsarnaev was in the boat.

Following Tsarnaev's arrest, Chief Deveau postponed his retirement so he could be present at the trial.

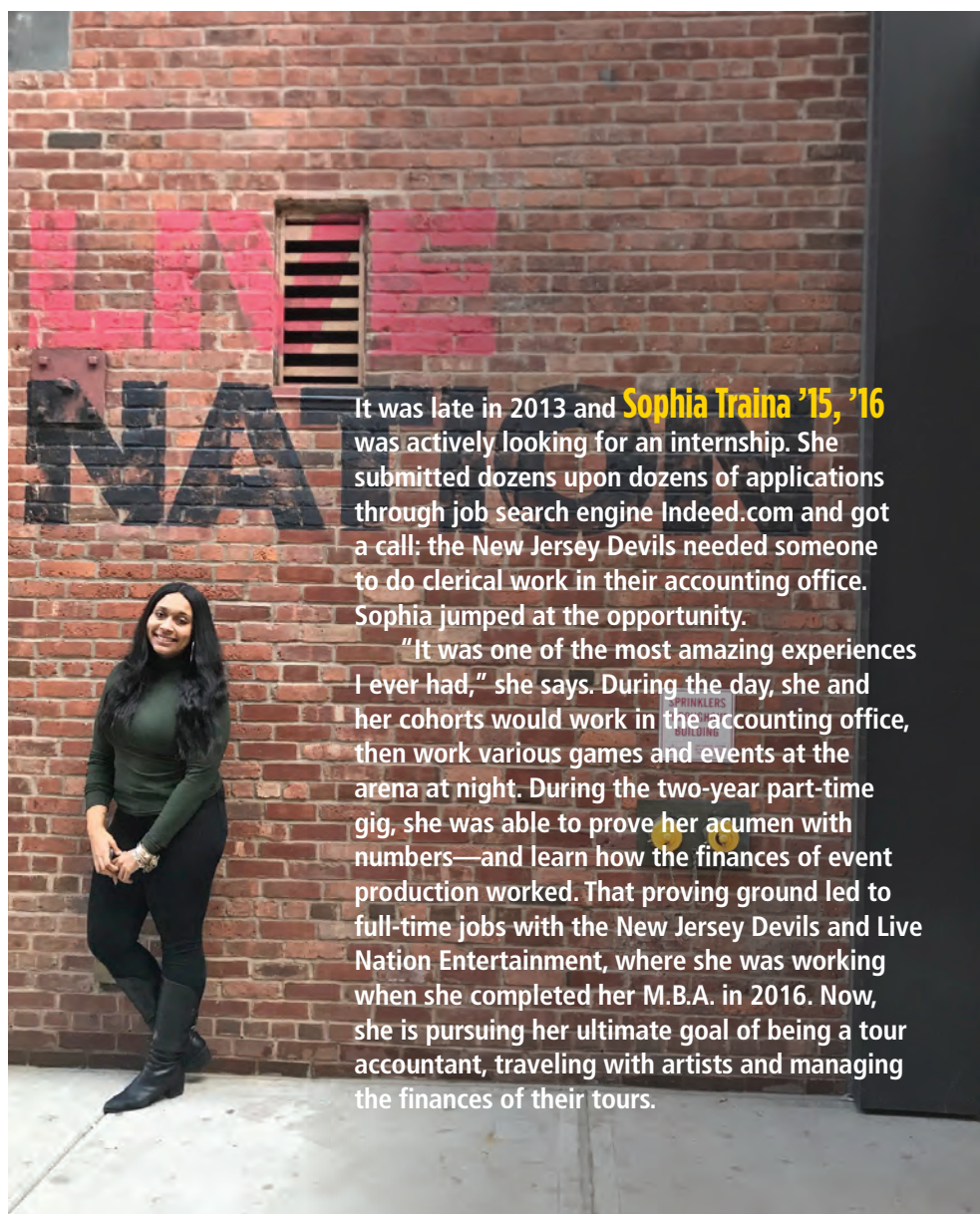
Thomas Zambrano, GCU chief of security, who introduced Chief Deveau, said the presentation dramatized "the importance of planning and teamwork" in order to keep people safe. He pointed out that GCU works very closely with the Lakewood Police Department to keep the campus safe. Greg Staffordsmith, Lakewood PD detective lieutenant who attended with other local officers, agreed, calling the apprehension of the Boston bombers "an amazing job of working together."



Chief Zambrano (left) with Chief Deveau (right)

Get Ready for Your Close-Up: Using an Internship as a Job Audition

By Gwen Moran



It was late in 2013 and **Sophia Traina '15, '16** was actively looking for an internship. She submitted dozens upon dozens of applications through job search engine Indeed.com and got a call: the New Jersey Devils needed someone to do clerical work in their accounting office. Sophia jumped at the opportunity.

"It was one of the most amazing experiences I ever had," she says. During the day, she and her cohorts would work in the accounting office, then work various games and events at the arena at night. During the two-year part-time gig, she was able to prove her acumen with numbers—and learn how the finances of event production worked. That proving ground led to full-time jobs with the New Jersey Devils and Live Nation Entertainment, where she was working when she completed her M.B.A. in 2016. Now, she is pursuing her ultimate goal of being a tour accountant, traveling with artists and managing the finances of their tours.

Small Steps to Big Dreams

From working on the next big television show to ascending to the heights of the business world to handling the finances for the rich and famous, Georgian Court University students often step onto the campus with big dreams for their futures. And while some look to the classroom or instructors to help them reach their goals, another key resource can be found tucked away in the Music Center—the career services office.

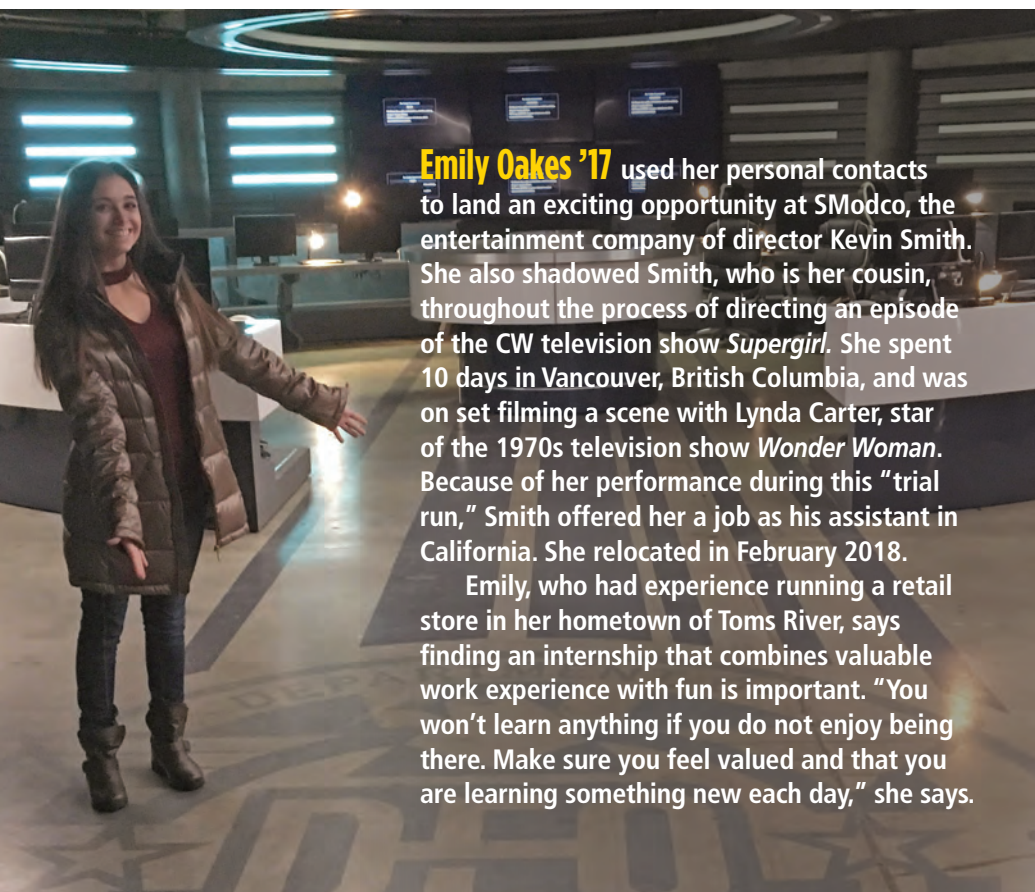
While campus career services used to be a quick stop where students checked job boards or had someone review their résumé, the office has become a resource for career development and life coaching services. Kathleen Brady, a veteran career coach and GCU visiting professor, says the office helps "introduce students to their future selves."

GCU's career services office can be a resource to help students find internship opportunities and use them as both springboards to get critical industry experience and also as "dress rehearsals" for landing jobs, says Jessica Evans, interim director of career services, corporate engagement, and continuing education.

On-Campus Career Booster

"Georgian Court has so many opportunities to help students develop their interests, including co-curricular activities like athletics, clubs and activities, panels and discussion groups, and study-abroad programs. Internships are another critical element of how students prepare themselves to be job-ready upon graduation," says Ms. Evans.

Sophia is currently a staff accountant at Live Nation.



Emily Oakes '17 used her personal contacts to land an exciting opportunity at SModco, the entertainment company of director Kevin Smith. She also shadowed Smith, who is her cousin, throughout the process of directing an episode of the CW television show *Supergirl*. She spent 10 days in Vancouver, British Columbia, and was on set filming a scene with Lynda Carter, star of the 1970s television show *Wonder Woman*. Because of her performance during this "trial run," Smith offered her a job as his assistant in California. She relocated in February 2018.

Emily, who had experience running a retail store in her hometown of Toms River, says finding an internship that combines valuable work experience with fun is important. "You won't learn anything if you do not enjoy being there. Make sure you feel valued and that you are learning something new each day," she says.



Above left: Emily shows off the Supergirl set of the Department of Extranormal Operations (DEO).

Above: Emily met the Supergirl cast and guest stars, including Supergirl herself—Melissa Benoist.

Below left: While at GCU, Joe presented research he did with Eduard Bitto, Ph.D., associate professor of biochemistry and chair of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry.



Joe Kaas '17 interned at Astrazeneca in 2017. By using his personal network, he found the opening, which allowed him to get his foot in the door of the biotech industry.

He says the company had between 20 and 30 interns in a formal program where he was able to participate in "lunch and learns," where they heard directly from people in different departments discussing their jobs and department roles. He worked on trending data files to help pare down manufacturing times and reduce errors. Whenever he had an opportunity to work with a new manager on a project, he took it, he says.

"I always wanted to try to talk to as many people as I could there," he says. "I knew I wanted to get in this industry, but I was just picking their brains for advice, jobs, what career path to take, and where to start." The broad-based experience he got during his internship helped him land a job as a scientist at Thermo Fisher Scientific in Frederick, Maryland.

"It's hard to get in, but once you're in, you're in," Joe adds.

First Steps on the Career Path

These types of hands-on internships are invaluable to young professionals, possibly leading to full-time jobs with the company offering the internship or others looking for experience in the field, Ms. Evans says. The career services office can act as a home base for helping students and alumni build careers, offering counseling, resources, and even some contacts to help students find and maximize their best opportunities. Employers value skills like the ability to work as part of a team, obtain and process information, and solve problems. The career services office can help reinforce those skills.

"Rather than ask 'What do you want to do?' we inquire 'Who do you want to become?' or 'What do you want your life to look like?' We need to help students consider not only which career paths they want to follow, but also assist them in identifying their unique gifts and talents," Ms. Brady says. "An internship is a great opportunity to take them for a test run!"

BRIDGE General Education Program Integrates Mercy Core Values

By Michelle Giles

The BRIDGE General Education Program at Georgian Court provides students with an integrated learning experience in the Catholic intellectual tradition, with a key focus on the Mercy core values and the university's Mercy mission. Now in its second academic year, the BRIDGE program is the result of a five-year, comprehensive development process conducted by faculty from across disciplines, the administration, and staff to provide a meaningful, transformative educational experience with a curriculum that conveys the university's Mercy identity.

As per the vision statement, the BRIDGE program aims to "foster informed, responsible, and creative citizenship for a complex 21st-century world" and enable students to "discover pathways to lifelong learning and to envision a future shaped by their engagement with the university's mission and Mercy charism." The program encourages students to think both critically and creatively as they learn more about themselves in the context of understanding others and the world.

"A general education program should reflect something unique about the university, something that reflects its identity," says Paul Cappucci, Ph.D., GCU director of the General Education Program and professor of English. "The new BRIDGE program attempts to do just that as it highlights GCU's Mercy core values of respect, integrity, justice, compassion, and service at key points throughout the curriculum."

The program, as outlined in the academic catalog, directly incorporates the Mercy core values into three required courses. Pathway to the Bridge (GEN101), which replaced First-Year Seminar, is a 2-credit course that introduces first-semester students to the university's mission, charism, and heritage as well as practices for a successful college experience. The cornerstone course, Discovering the Self in the Big Universe, (GEN199) is a 3-credit, writing-intensive course that asks students to explore the Mercy core values of respect and integrity within the framework of commonality, diversity, and symbiosis. Students take this course in the spring of their freshman year or for transfer students, in the first semester at GCU.

The program culminates with the senior-year capstone course, Visioning a Future: Justice, Compassion, and Service (GEN400), a 3-credit writing-intensive course that invites students to reflect and analyze how, in light of the Mercy core values, their General Education Program has impacted their understanding of themselves in the world, how their worldview has developed, and to envision their roles in shaping a just, compassionate world. In addition to participating in a service learning group project, students develop a

final research project in which they apply the Mercy core values to a critical concern of their choosing.

In total, the General Education Program requires 48 to 49 credits, which includes courses in women and gender studies, select content knowledge areas, academic writing, and experiential learning. Dr. Cappucci notes that the General Education Program is a "living curriculum," as the university will continue to review the program through assessments and look for ways to enhance the required courses.

The revision of GCU's General Education Program began under then-Provost Evelyn Saul Quinn, M.S.W., M.Ed., '74, who challenged the General Education Committee to explore how meaningful general education requirements were constructed and to create a unique experience with a clear Mercy stamp. The committee, made up of faculty members from all three schools, developed goals, learning objectives, and program models. With the support of grant funding from the Network for Vocation in Undergraduate Education (NetVUE), faculty participated in workshops throughout 2014–2015 to design the cornerstone and capstone courses.

Ms. Quinn, who is now the vice president for mission integration, praised the hard work of the faculty under the direction of Dr. Cappucci.

"The three key courses tie together the general education offerings through the lens of the Mercy core values, making the experience of linked interdisciplinary learning lead to deep, critical thinking," says Ms. Quinn. "Given the early feedback from both students and faculty who are teaching these classes, it is an enriching and meaningful experience while sustaining and rooting the mission and the wonderful legacy of Mercy."

GEN101 and GEN400 students are also required to participate in service learning projects. Last semester, GEN400 projects included a donation drive for hurricane victims in Puerto Rico; a marketing video for Vincent's Legacy, a ministry that collects and distributes furniture donations for families in need; and a video to support the Visitation Relief Center in Brick. Students in GEN101 classes participate in service projects with a variety of local charitable organizations.

"The BRIDGE program provides our students with a profound and transformative educational program—one that is unique to Georgian Court," says Provost William J. Behre, Ph.D. "Students have opportunities to engage in critical thinking about how the Mercy core values connect with their education, their lives, and the world."

Critical Concerns 2017 Offered Variety of Perspectives on Nonviolence

By Laura Canzonier

Each year, the GCU Office of Mission Integration focuses on one of the five critical concerns of the Sisters of Mercy: the earth, immigration, nonviolence, racism, and women. In October and November 2017, the office offered a series of events for Critical Concerns 2017: Embracing Nonviolence in a Turbulent World, including panel discussions on gender-based violence, posters on the voices of women during the Holocaust, and several guest speakers.

On November 7, author Kate Hennessy, granddaughter of social activist Dorothy Day (1897–1980), discussed her new book, *Dorothy Day: The World Will Be Saved by Beauty*, with a large crowd in the Little Theatre, followed by a book signing at the library. The book provides a human perspective on the way her grandmother's activism impacted her relationship with her only child, Ms. Hennessy's mother.

"It is very difficult to answer questions about her influence on me," Ms. Hennessy said. "We have our own paths. My grandmother said people must find their own way and remain true to themselves."

Earlier that day, civil rights activist and DREAMer Angy Rivera led a film screening and discussion of *Don't Tell Anyone/No Le Digas a Nadie*. The documentary illustrates her remarkable journey from poverty in rural Colombia and struggles as she became an advocate fighting for the rights of undocumented individuals in the United States.

"During these uncertain times, it is crucial for all of us to do what we can to move justice forward for all people," Ms. Rivera said. "We should not let fear and doubt keep us from fighting for equality and inclusion. My story is just one of millions of stories."



Kate Hennessy signs books in the library.



Angy Rivera reflects in the Little Theatre.

In Remembrance of Mary Arthur Beal, RSM, '55

Former dean of the Georgian Court Graduate School, Sister Mary Arthur Beal passed away in July 2017 at the age of 95.

She entered the Sisters of Mercy in 1940, and received a bachelor's degree in biology from then-Georgian Court College in 1955. She received two master's degrees from Fordham University: one in elementary education in 1961, and one in psychology in 1968.

After teaching at St. Mary School in Trenton and Mount Saint Mary Academy in Watchung and serving as principal of Holy Cross School in Rumson, Sister Mary Arthur became a professor of education at Georgian Court in 1965. In 1984, she was promoted to dean of the Graduate School, a role she relished for 15 years. She retired from her position as dean in 1999, but continued to volunteer in the Office of Institutional Advancement until 2006, ultimately serving the Georgian Court community for 34 years.



"What I remember about Sister Arthur are her beautiful smile and incredibly gracious demeanor. She was universally nonjudgmental, even as our antics sometimes crossed the line. I never knew her to raise her voice or scowl," says Gail Flanigan-Rufer '68, for whose class Sister Mary Arthur served as advisor. "I also know she continued to be steadfast in her affection to each and every one of us whenever we did meet for the years to come. What a wonderful life she had, and how quietly we were all touched by her."

In the lead up to their 50th Reunion this fall, the Class of 1968 created an endowed scholarship in her name to support students who might not otherwise be able to attend GCU. It is a fitting tribute to Sister Mary Arthur, who held each of them to the highest standards during their time at The Court, with the expectation that they would continue to work and live up to that high standard throughout their lives.



Reunion & Homecoming Weekend 2017: Action-Packed Fun & Celebration

Reunion & Homecoming Weekend 2017, which included Open House activities for a record-setting 186 prospective students, was one to remember. Nearly 100 alumni joined in the September 29–October 1 weekend, which included something for everyone. There were special receptions, a BBQ lunch on the lawn, and a memorable event for the 50th Anniversary Class of 1967.

Others celebrated the newest inductees to the GCU Athletic Hall of Fame, and a hypnotist turned skeptics into true believers. Families (and current students, too) enjoyed giant inflatables, food trucks, campus tours, and nearly 200 GCU students joined young alumni around a bonfire as they danced to everything—from Migos, Missy Elliott, and Luis Fonsi, to Pink, Justin Timberlake, and Journey. In addition, nearly 300 people attended the university's comedy showcase at the Strand Theater.

1) Members of the Class of 1967 gathered for their 50th anniversary in the Mansion, enjoying a prayer service, dinner program, and a special video message from their beloved advisor, Maria Cordis Richey, RSM, Ph.D., '50.

2) More than 20 people joined biology and chemistry faculty inside the Audrey Birish George Science Center as they dedicated GCU's spectroscopy lab in honor of Mary Peter Coakley, RSM, Ph.D., '47 (1915–2013), professor emerita of chemistry.

3) In 2017, GCU introduced several new alumni awards. The inaugural recipients were Miriam Hunte '16 (not pictured); Ben Salsby '17; Amelia Alonso McTamane '67; Agnes Moore Higgins '39; Lisa Gambacorto, RSM, '84; and Luka Zgonjanin '17. For a complete list of awards and how to nominate your fellow alumni, please visit alumni.georgian.edu and click *Get Involved*.





4) Current students and alumni enjoyed softball, volleyball, and soccer games.

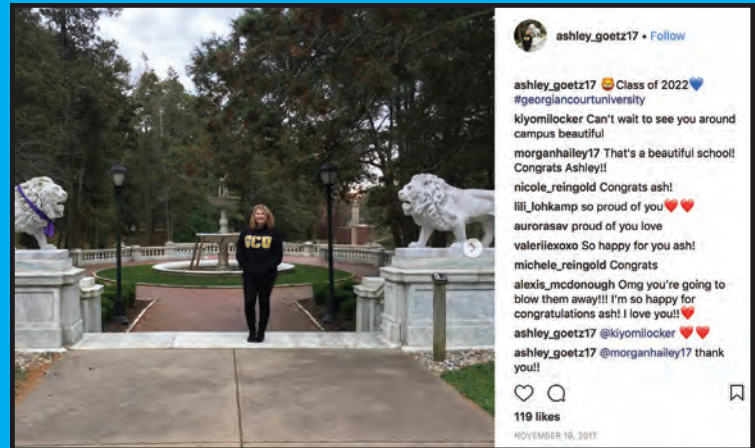
5) Student-athletes Michelle Almeida, Alaa Al-Shrouf, and Stephanie Bock celebrated Homecoming at the bonfire.



GCU Gets Social

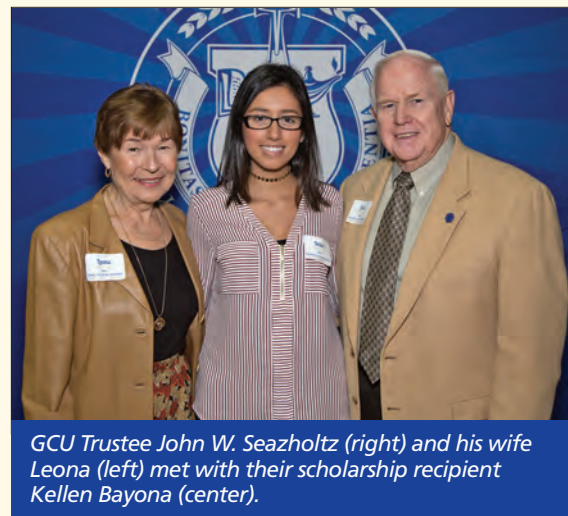
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Court Shorts

Let's Do Brunch. On November 5, GCU celebrated more than 250 scholarship recipients, their families, and the donors who made their scholarships possible at the annual Scholarship Brunch. The event was a wonderful opportunity to meet new and old friends, and to hear stories of the groups and individuals making a difference in the lives of our students. More than 300 students receive scholarship support from donors, and those donations represent, on average, 10 percent of the student's annual tuition! Visit bit.ly/GCU_ThankYou to see the impact scholarship giving has at GCU.



GCU Trustee John W. Seasholtz (right) and his wife Leona (left) met with their scholarship recipient Kellen Bayona (center).

Retention Extension, That's Our Intention. Chart the Course, now in its fourth year, provides opportunities for freshman students to complete 30 credits in their first year through increased intervention, degree mapping, winter- and summer-term credit classes at no additional cost, and focused advising. The program, funded for a five-year period through a component of a U.S. Department of Education Title III grant, has increased first-to-second year retention from 70% to 85%. Building on Chart the Course's success, a new pilot initiative, Pathway to Career Success, is launching this semester to assist sophomores with improved academic success, degree completion, and focused career goals. The new program will include professional mentors, additional credit-completion initiatives, focused advising, and integrated career development tools.

Where in the World? With the start of a new semester, we welcomed back Lisa Milburn from Italy and Amanda Finn, Evan Boyce, and Daniel Smoke from Australia. Several students also studied or volunteered abroad during the winter session: Abigail Halprin (Israel), Jackie Teitelbaum (Spain), and Tiffani DePietro and alumna Jenna DePietro '15 (Tanzania). This semester, five students are studying abroad. Jackie Sweeney and Lauren Sorce are at St. Mary's University in London, England; Deborah Cohen and Faigy Wieder are at the University of Hong Kong; and Juan Quintero is at the Instituto Universitario de Lisboa in Portugal.



Students Megan Barrett (left) and Lauren Azzolini (right) with Roary

So Stuffed. On October 25, in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, GCU partnered with the Lakewood Police Department to stuff 190 plush animals for Teddy Bears for Tykes, a service initiative to comfort children who currently suffer from exposure to violence, abuse, and other traumatic events. The Student Government Association (SGA) sponsored the service project and supplied the plush toys and stuffing. Over the course of the day, Lakewood police, students, faculty, staff, and administrators came by to contribute and stuff a plush animal for a child in need.

Convocation Celebration. On August 31, 2017, GCU's annual Convocation Ceremony welcomed new students and recognized student and faculty achievements. More than 1,000 attendees including students, parents, faculty, and administration listened as Scott H. Bennett, Ph.D., professor and chair of the Department of History, Geography, and Political Science and recipient of the 2017 Virginia Graham '31 Award for Teaching Excellence, delivered the keynote address. He urged students to make their own histories, determine their futures, and advance social justice and the Mercy core values through intellectual experience, travel, and civic engagement.



Dr. Scott H. Bennett

Let's Go Global. Global Lions, a new club that launched in the fall, initiated monthly Global Cafés. The cafés allow students who have lived abroad and international students to provide the GCU community a taste of another corner of the world. One participant mentioned that the cafés feel like a mini experience abroad. During International Education Week, a Teach Abroad Panel, highlighting experiences from faculty, staff, and alumni, opened up the world to graduating teacher candidates.

More Seamless Transitions. Since our last issue, Georgian Court University has signed guaranteed admissions agreements with three more Catholic high schools, including two outside New Jersey: Cathedral High School in Manhattan, New York; Immaculata High School in Somerville, New Jersey; and Mercy High School in Baltimore, Maryland. That brings our number of Catholic high school partnerships to 12—and more are in the works! In addition, GCU signed guaranteed and dual admissions agreements with Raritan Valley Community College, Middlesex County College, and Atlantic Cape Community College, which brings the total number of these agreements to six.



Left to right: John Lanza, a member of the Hunterdon County Board of Freeholders; Jack Cust Jr., managing partner for Flemington Center Urban Renewal; Georgian Court University President Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D.; Flemington Mayor Phil Greiner; Chris Phelan, president and CEO of the Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce

Partnering Up in Flemington.

Georgian Court is partnering with Flemington Center Urban Renewal, LLC, to become the newest higher education institution to serve students in the Hunterdon County area of New Jersey. GCU officials joined Flemington developers and Hunterdon Chamber of Commerce leaders in announcing the partnership on December 5. GCU will be the sole provider of college-level educational programs at the forthcoming Courthouse Square, a 300,000-square-foot, mixed-use property in downtown Flemington. The project is expected to break ground next year, and GCU would likely begin offering degree-completion programs in the fall of 2019.

GCU Welcomes Four New Trustees to Board

Georgian Court University recently welcomed four new members to the Board of Trustees with experience in government, education, business, and health care.



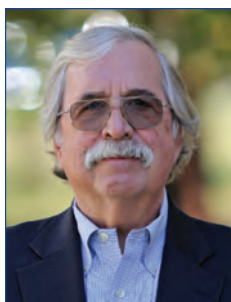
Madeline Ferraro, J.D., vice president for government and public affairs for Atlantic Health System, brings extensive experience in legislative and regulatory matters, as well as policymaking, state and federal appropriations, and corporate strategic giving.



Monsignor R. Vincent Gartland, a former high school educator at St. Joseph High School and St. Mary High School, served congregations at St. James, St. Raphael, and St. Justin the Martyr before being named pastor of St. Ann Parish in Lawrenceville. Msgr. Gartland was also a university chaplain (Rider) and though now retired, continues to serve area parishes.



David S. Kountz, M.D., FACP, '09 is vice president of academic affairs for Jersey Shore University Medical Center, co-chief academic officer for Hackensack Meridian *Health*, and a graduate of GCU's M.B.A. program. In addition to practicing medicine, he has taught at Hahnemann University Hospital, Temple University Hospital, Jersey Shore, and Robert Wood Johnson Medical School.



Edward J. Smith, is the president and founder of Barnegat Bay Capital Inc., a consulting and corporate advisory firm that focuses on corporate governance and investment banking. He brings more than four decades of experience from roles as Shearson Lehman Bros.; Merrill Lynch; Kidder, Peabody & Co.; and Prudential Securities.

The Future of Georgian Court—Driven by the “Strategic Compass”



Dr. Marbach presented an outline of the Strategic Compass to the campus community and alumni during Reunion and Homecoming Weekend 2017.

Strategic planning is nothing new, but Georgian Court University's approach just might be.

It was 2016 when University President Joseph Marbach, Ph.D., introduced the campus to the idea of creating a “strategic compass” to guide every aspect of GCU—from finances and new programs to rethinking ways of recruiting students and raising money.

After dozens of work sessions, internal and external focus groups, discussions of mission and margin, and extensive research, the GCU Strategic Compass is nearly ready to launch. At the center of it all is the GCU student experience, with four compass points designed to:

- attract more students by diversifying GCU academic programs in response to market demands;
- retain more students by providing the best student experience possible;
- expand GCU's physical and virtual presence by offering courses in Lakewood and beyond through multiple formats at multiple locations; and
- plan strategically—in enrollment management, institutional advancement, academic program development, campus master planning, and unit effectiveness. Doing so will help GCU maximize operational efficiencies, revenue generation, and diversification.

“Ultimately, the Strategic Compass is in alignment with mission,” says Dr. Marbach. “It will ground us in our decision-making processes as we continue to serve in the tradition of Catherine McAuley and the Sisters of Mercy.”

Francis G. Coleman Endowed Scholarship

Potential is a word that means a lot to GCU trustee Frank Coleman. He sees Georgian Court as an environment that helps students transform their potential into realized success, and he recently endowed a scholarship to help students of color at Georgian Court do just that.

The Francis G. Coleman Endowed Scholarship will be awarded to students of color who may not have achieved high academic honors before coming to GCU, but who have demonstrated great potential for success. These are the students who may need just a little more support in the classroom to flourish, but are standout candidates for a scholarship based on their history of service to the community, peer leadership, and extracurricular achievement.

Georgian Court is uniquely qualified to help these students succeed. Our Chart the Course initiative helps first-year students get and stay on track to graduate in four years, and the Academic Early Warning System



GCU Trustee Frank Coleman

makes sure students at risk are identified early and receive that extra support. Leadership programs and student groups like Women in Leadership Development, Emerging Leaders, the Student Government Association, and the Young Lions Brotherhood provide peer leadership training, mentoring, and opportunities.

Mr. Coleman's support of these students at Georgian Court through this new scholarship helps capture the spirit of entrepreneurship and the motivation to succeed exhibited by our students. His gift ensures that students who are challenged by the work but have a desire to do more are recognized, supported, and encouraged to realize that potential.

"[GCU] is a gateway institution to success. It's the first point in a student's life [leading] to a new life," Mr. Coleman says, adding that the scholarship is "really about opening doors."

Visit bit.ly/GCU_ThankYou to see more from Mr. Coleman and learn about the impact of scholarships at GCU.



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EMPOWER Program Advocates for Social Change Against Sexual Violence

By Michelle Giles

Georgian Court University's EMPOWER program engages the campus in preventing, responding, and advocating against sexual assault and relationship violence while promoting social change. Supported by a three-year, \$299,829 grant from the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) in the U.S. Department of Justice, EMPOWER has sponsored a number of programs and events to promote awareness of the issues surrounding sexual violence and empower students and the campus community.

"It is crucial that we, as an institution, provide the necessary resources to help our students succeed," says Nicole Mossbacher '15, GCU's OVW program specialist. "Given GCU's special concern for women, we are committed to issues surrounding nonviolence. Our grant from the OVW has been a remarkable blessing for the Georgian Court community at large as we continue to work toward a campus free of sexual assault, domestic and dating violence, and stalking."

Sexual violence is a very difficult and sensitive topic, but it is an important conversation to have, notes Erin McCarron, director of student activities.

Ms. McCarron serves on EMPOWER's Coordinated Community Response (CCR) team, which coordinates efforts on campus to reduce sexual violence. The CCR team has 18 members representing various campus offices, including Colleen Diveny, OVW program director and director of student advocacy and success; Amani S. Jennings, dean of students; Robin Solbach, director of counseling; and representatives of external partners, the Lakewood Police Department and Providence House.

In November, members of the CCR team led an informative discussion, "Let Your Voice Be Heard About Gender-Based Violence," before a crowd of students, faculty, and staff as part of Critical Concerns Week 2017. The panel urged students and the campus community to continue having conversations, become more knowledgeable about the issues of sexual violence by attending prevention events and training, and to ask questions.

"This is so important—even if you're not sure if it is a form of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, or domestic violence—know that it is okay to ask," said Ms. McCarron. "It's important to ask. If it doesn't feel right, it probably isn't right."



Nicole Mossbacher '15, GCU's OVW program specialist, in front of the Campus Pledge of Nonviolence

According to the National Sexual Violence Resource Center (2015), one in five women and one in 16 men are sexually assaulted while in college. More than 90 percent of sexual assault victims on college campuses do not report the assault. GCU offers on-campus and off-campus resources for students and other members of the campus community, both confidential and non-confidential.

The university is currently in the second year of the federal grant. As part of Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October, EMPOWER's programming included an information event, bystander intervention training, a self-defense seminar with Lakewood police, trauma-informed yoga, a survivor stories panel, and GCU Purple Day to raise awareness. On October 25, GCU partnered with the Lakewood Police Department to stuff 190 toy animals for Teddy Bears for Tykes, a service project to help reduce trauma suffered by children exposed to violence, abuse, and other traumatic incidents. On October 13, as part of the Silent Witness Project, GCU received a proclamation from the Ocean County Freeholders for the university's efforts to prevent sexual violence and domestic abuse. "Not Anymore," an online sexual assault, dating and domestic violence, and stalking prevention program has begun for first-year students, transfer students, new graduate students, and GCU employees.

The EMPOWER program expands victim services and advocacy by providing for a Providence House counselor to offer services on campus three days per week. GCU has also developed partnerships with 180 Turning Lives Around, the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office, St. Francis Counseling Services, and Men Can Stop Rape. GCU is also part of the Ocean County Violence Prevention Coalition. EMPOWER has an ambassador program to enlist students to help prevent sexual violence on campus.

The EMPOWER office is located in Jeffries Hall, Room 127. Hanging on the wall outside the office is the Campus Pledge of Nonviolence, which begins: "Making peace must start within ourselves and our campus. Each of us, members of the Georgian Court community, commit ourselves as best we can to become nonviolent and peaceable people."

Women's Basketball Team Shares Love of Sport in Europe

By Christopher McKibben



The women's basketball team in front of St. Mark's Basilica in Venice, Italy, after visiting Serbia and Croatia

Not accustomed to road trips that exceed four hours, let alone two weeks, the Georgian Court University women's basketball squad set off on a once-in-a-lifetime European journey last August that took the team to such countries as Croatia, Serbia, Montenegro, and Italy during the fortnight of adventure. The Lions arrived in Belgrade, the capital of Serbia, on August 13 and immediately hit the ground running with a jam-packed itinerary. The group proceeded to Dubrovnik, a Croatian city along the Adriatic Sea, and then to Italy before returning home on August 25.

Georgian Court has two student-athletes on its roster who are natives of two of the visited countries: Dora Cipic from Split, Croatia, and Carna Prokic from Subotica, Serbia.

"This trip gave me the opportunity to go back home to see my family and friends, but it also allowed me to share my culture with my teammates," says Dora, who just completed her first season as a Lion. "I was beyond excited to reveal the beauties of Croatia to my teammates as well as to explore different parts of the world myself. We become comfortable with our everyday lives, so we do not often venture out and try new things. Georgian Court University has given the basketball team the chance to be uncomfortable! Soon, we will grow to learn that being uncomfortable is comfortable."

Georgian Court suited up for five exhibition games on the tour, allowing the Lions to share their love of basketball with their European counterparts. The young women also showed off their knowledge and talent while participating in youth basketball clinics in Croatia and Montenegro.

Head Coach Jasmina "Jazz" Perazic is a basketball legend in Europe after playing with the former Yugoslavian National Team from 1980 to 1992. She also suited up for Yugoslavia (now Serbia) in the 1984 Summer Olympic Games in Los Angeles and is a former Most Valuable Player of the European Championships.

"I am so excited for our team and our school," shares Coach Perazic. "This was an amazing opportunity to represent our wonderful university, American college basketball, and women's basketball overall. Most teams that go on a foreign tour play a few games and have a great time, but our team also helped out at camps, interacted with children from local youth clubs, demonstrated some practice drills, and really tried to make a positive impact on young players in Serbia, Croatia, and Italy."

"With the Mercy mission and core values always close to our heart, we have the opportunity like never before to teach, to help, to learn, and to open the hearts and minds of those we come in contact with," adds Coach Perazic. "And that is exactly what the world needs!"



Margaret More (far left) with Coach Dino Raso (second from left) and members of the men's soccer squad

Moving Men: Men's Soccer Squad Gives Back with Vincent's Legacy

By Chris McKibben

The Georgian Court University men's soccer team has experienced its share of support, from its inaugural season in 2013 to the pinnacle of hoisting the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference championship trophy in 2016. Because of this continued positive morale, these Lions have never hesitated to give back to those who believe in them. This was proven in the fall, when a majority of the squad volunteered with Vincent's Legacy, a diocese-wide ministry that collects and distributes furniture donations to families in need. Their efforts have amounted to more than 350 volunteer hours.

"The soccer athletes from GCU have been a godsend to the furniture ministry," says Margaret More, who established the ministry, the concept of which grew out of the St. Vincent de Paul Conference in Ms. More's parish of St. Rose, Belmar. "Not only are they in top physical condition due to the nature of the sport they play, but because they are also students, they 'think' when they are volunteering with us."

Junior Devin Mangan was excited when he learned about the opportunity to volunteer with the ministry.

"I have helped move furniture to houses of families in need and then helped pick up furniture from donors as well," he says. "Volunteering with this ministry is eye-opening—you really start to understand how difficult some people's lives are." He adds that he has learned "how lucky I am to be playing the sport I love and getting an education."

Women's Soccer Squad Earns First Championship Since 2010

By Chris McKibben

The Georgian Court University women's soccer squad finally found relief for its own version of the "seven-year itch," as the top-seeded Lions clinched their first Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC) crown since 2010 on November 5, cruising past #2 Wilmington University, 4-1, to secure the third crown of the Jim Moore era (2008).

GCU finished the magical campaign with a stellar 16-4-2 record, which included an undefeated streak that reached 15 straight contests (14-0-1) with the CACC championship victory. The season would come to a close with a 3-0 setback to Southern New Hampshire University, November 10, in the Lions' first NCAA East Regional Tournament appearance since 2010.

"The 2017 season was a wonderful example of how a group of young women who are dedicated and determined can accomplish amazing things," shares Coach Moore. "This team worked each and every day toward winning a championship. It was truly a team effort—each player was able to contribute, and that made the season special."

As a result of their stellar showing all year long, sophomore Anissia Fucci (Second Team) and senior Morgan LaDuca (Honorable Mention) earned selection to the 2017 Division II Conference Commissioners Association (CCA) All-America Team. Senior Lizzy Kroon received a spot on the United Soccer Coaches 2017 NCAA Division II Women's All-East Region Third-Team.

"Looking ahead to the 2018 season, we have to replace a very talented senior class," admits Coach Moore. "However, we have an excellent group of players who are determined to not only return, but to win games in the NCAA tournament. We are excited about our incoming class and fully expect these future Lions to be able to step in and help move the program to even higher levels."



AD Laura Liesman Honored with Prestigious Garden State Award

By Chris McKibben



Laura Liesman

The Collegiate Athletic Administrators of New Jersey (CAANJ) presented Laura Liesman, GCU assistant vice president for athletics and recreation, with the prestigious Garden State Award on October 12 at the CAANJ Awards Luncheon in Somerset, New Jersey. The Garden State Award stands for enduring contributions to the development of intercollegiate athletics in New Jersey.

Ms. Liesman continues to lead the athletics program to new heights since its transition to NCAA Division II prior to the 2003–2004 academic year. She has worked hand-in-hand with the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, making it a dynamic entity by providing influential direction as the student-athletes became active contributors on campus and in the community. Under her leadership, GCU athletics added lacrosse and indoor and outdoor track & field programs for women. GCU also welcomed men's athletics for the first time in 2013–2014, adding basketball, cross-country, soccer, indoor and outdoor track & field, and lacrosse in Spring 2016.

The number of student-athletes at Georgian Court continues to increase, as does the public exposure for the Lions in the media and in the surrounding community and region. During Ms. Liesman's 14-year tenure, the state-of-the-art Wellness Center Complex was constructed as the new home of GCU athletics, and it has played host to more than 30 CACC Championship Tournaments since its debut in 2008.

At the luncheon, Mary Williams, GCU associate athletics director for compliance and student-athlete welfare and president-elect of the CAANJ, stated that Ms. Liesman's "leadership has transformed the face of NCAA Division II in the state of New Jersey and created opportunities for so many young adults to compete and excel in the classroom at a preeminent level."

Trio Represents Lions Nationally at Key NCAA Leadership Conferences in Washington



Hussein Elmesad



Xena Valenzuela



Arturo "Artie" Sanchez

Sophomore Hussein Elmesad (cross-country/track & field), junior Artie Sanchez (men's soccer/lacrosse) and senior Xena Valenzuela (women's lacrosse) represented the Lions and the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC) on a national platform as they journeyed to our nation's capital, November 16–19, to participate in the NCAA Student-Athlete Leadership Forum and the NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) Super Region Convention.

During the forum, they learned about NCAA governance structures and how committees work and make membership decisions. They also learned more about SAACs and how impactful they can be at the national, campus, and conference levels. SAACs are the voice of the student-athlete within the NCAA governance structure.

"(The forum) was one of, if not the most influential, experiences of my life," shares Hussein. "I learned so much from the amazing leaders I met and collaborated with. Most of all, I also built a true family. It was amazing to see how I grew so close with a group of student-athlete leaders over the course of a weekend. I plan on utilizing all the important leadership skills I learned on campus."

Artie, the current GCU SAAC president, and Xena, GCU's SAAC vice president, also attended the DII SAAC Super Region Convention, which is intended to bolster student-athlete participation in the Division II governance structure and foster communication among SAACs.

"This was an amazing experience that left most, if not all, representatives feeling empowered to be able to make changes or improvements to their campus culture," says Artie. "I am excited to be able to use all the tools, ideas, and skills that I have acquired to keep forming and improving the culture here at GCU."

The three student-athletes returned with invaluable leadership skills, knowledge of Division II student-athlete initiatives and the Make It Yours brand, and methods for strengthening the student-athlete voice. They also learned how to plan successful fund-raisers and work with Team IMPACT and Make-A-Wish.

"Student-athletes were told they were going to leave 'empowered' to make positive change on their own campuses, and that's exactly what I felt when everything came to an end," says Xena. "I am grateful to have had such an opportunity that opened my mind, changed my perspective, and allowed me to work closely and share ideas with student-athletes from schools throughout the country. I was eager to get back to GCU to implement new concepts and encourage my peers to do the same!"

Congratulations to the Sisters of Mercy Celebrating Jubilees!

In 2017, many Sisters of Mercy celebrated Jubilees. Three celebrated their Golden Jubilees with 50 years: Maureen Christensen '72; Nancy Herron '71; and Rosemary Jeffries, Ph.D., '72, GCU president emerita. Patricia Welsh '59 celebrated 70 years. Two alumnae celebrated 75 years as Sisters of Mercy: Helen O'Donnell '60 and Mary Yvonne Osborne '63.

On September 8, 2017—on the same day they entered the congregation 61 years ago—eight Sisters of Mercy celebrated their Diamond Jubilee (60 years of service) at a Mass in the Catherine Siena Chapel at McAuley Hall. Pictured in the front row are Marie Pierson '70; Patricia Morrison '64; Mary Kathleen O'Halloran '63; Mary Nadine Boyle '71, '80; and Margaret Russell '70, '78. Pictured in the back row are Ethel Friedman '70; Barbara A. Williams '63, president emerita, archivist, and assistant librarian in sciences and mathematics; Jane Hardy '75; and Marie Cook, Ph.D., '64, professor emerita of biology. Not pictured are Patricia Conlin '71 and Monica Jacques '61.



ALUMNUS WEDDING GOES VIRAL—IN A GOOD WAY

By Tara M. Strickland

The newly married couple share a moment with Tommy DiPaolo after the ceremony at Imperial Healthcare Rehabilitation and Nursing Center.



Special education teacher Thomas “Tom” DiPaolo '12 never realized that he would celebrate his marriage to Ellen Tyndall with two weddings—or that one of them would go viral.

Tom's parents raised him on Disney World, first bringing him at 15 months of age. Now 31 and a special education teacher in Jersey City, Tom said Disney was a natural wedding venue because Ellen loves the place as much as he does. They found a site at the Swan and Dolphin Resort and planned for a November 2017 wedding. However, they soon realized that Tom's father, Tommy DiPaolo, would not be able to make the trip. The older DiPaolo is suffering from late-stage kidney cancer, Parkinson's disease, and Hepatitis C. Tom's mother, Kim, asked the Imperial Rehabilitation and Nursing Center in Neptune, where Tommy resides, if they could hold a ceremony there, and the nursing home ran with the idea.

“They decorated and did everything,” says Tom, who notes that all his family had to do was get a cake and someone to perform the service. The additional ceremony on October 7 also gave a few other family members who were unable to travel to Orlando—including Ellen's grandparents—the chance to see the couple say “I do.”

The impromptu ceremony was planned in a matter of weeks, and



Tom DiPaolo laughs as he puts the ring on Ellen Tyndell's finger, with friend Robert Clawson performing the ceremony.

Tommy was “very happy and surprised,” says Tom. “He really didn't think that we were going to do something like that.”

Tom was also thrilled to have the ceremony at the nursing center, where his father was able to briefly stand, gripping his walker, to toast the happy couple with cider.

“Growing up, my father was the strongest person I had ever known, so I never expected him not to be able to come to my wedding. He was always at my football and track meets, and anything I had for school,” Tom recalls. “I was happy that we were able to do something like this.”

Imperial got in touch with the *Asbury Park Press* about the ceremony, and the resulting story, video, and photos, have since gone viral on a variety of sites.

“It's a story that a lot of people can relate to,” says Tom, who was surprised to hear of the reach of his family's story. “But that's one reason why I'm a teacher, because I want to touch people's lives. So if I did this in another way, I'm grateful for that.”

Photos by Noah K. Murray from Asbury Park Press (app.com), October 8, 2017 (c) 2017 Gannett-Community Publishing. All rights reserved. Used by permission and protected by the Copyright Laws of the United States. The printing, copying, redistribution, or retransmission of this Content without express permission is prohibited.

1940s

Florence "Riccie" Riccobono Johnson '45 continues her work at CBS, serving as makeup artist for the *60 Minutes* correspondents. *60 Minutes* is celebrating their 50th anniversary this year, and Riccie is proud to have been part of the team since nearly the beginning.

1960s

Amy Joseph Habib '60, former GCU trustee, received an honorary doctorate from Canisius College at their 2017 commencement ceremony. Amy is past chair of the board of directors for Petri Baking Products Inc., which manufactured more than 200 varieties of cookies under the Petri, Bakery Fresh, and other private-label brands. Amy is a former member of the Canisius College board of trustees and recipient of the LaSalle Medal and Regents Distinguished Citizen Award. She earned a Master of Science degree from Canisius in 1963.

1970s

Constance Anne Reymann '77, '00 is in her second year of a three-year term as a board member on the Weymouth Township Board of Education; she is chair of the policy committee. Connie is also in her second term on the GCU Alumni Board of Directors and is secretary of the Phi Delta Kappa Chapter 1616 at Stockton University.

1980s

Cheryle Haynes '80 has been working for the Long Branch School District since 1998 and is currently a teacher at Audrey W. Clark School. She has four grandchildren.

Mary Ann McMahon '82 is vice president at Conover Beyer Associates.

Elizabeth Higgins Miller '82 is a teacher at Northfield Community School, where she has worked since 1992. She and her husband, Jim, have two sons—Christopher and Matthew.

Carole Hedinger, CPA, '83 received the Major Peter J. O'Connell PGRI Lottery Industry Lifetime Achievement Award at the Public Gaming Research Institute (PGRI) SMART-Tech Conference in New York in 2016. Carole began her lottery career as deputy director of the New Jersey Lottery in 1994. After years of dedicated service, she was appointed executive director by Governor Chris Christie in June 2010.

Robin Lorenc Nichols '85's son, Cameron, is in the United States Air Force and is stationed in South Korea.

Tess Mosko Scherer '86 was featured in an article in *Images Arizona Magazine* for being one of 174 artists participating in the 21st Annual Hidden in the Hills artist studio tour.

Gail O'Donnell Krzyczku '88 was promoted to chief financial officer and tax and sewer collector for the Borough of Bradley Beach, where she has worked since August 1994.

1950s



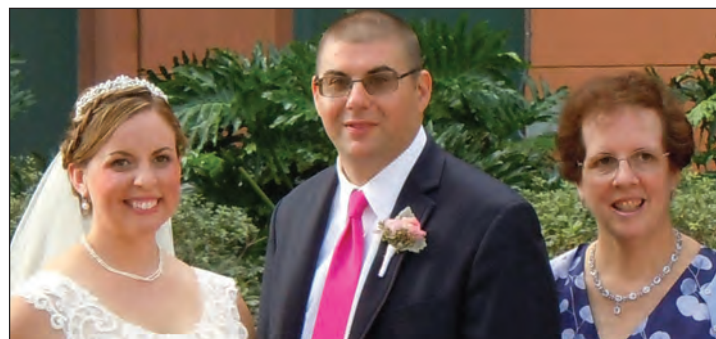
Carol Quinn Reilly '58 and her husband, Bob, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in style! Their three daughters planned a lovely event on July 23, 2017, at the Willow Creek Winery in West Cape May for family and friends, including some fellow alumni. In lieu of presents, guests were asked to make gifts to the St. Vincent de Paul Society, as Bob is the president of their local society. The monies could not have come at a better time for their community; Hurricane Harvey hit shortly thereafter. Pictured are Eileen, sister of **Marilyn Peter Duffy '58**, and Marilyn and her husband, Phil; Bob and Carol; **Jeanette Macri LaMonaca '58** and her husband, Hugh; **Lois Kuhn Jamison '58** and her husband, Eliot; and **Maureen McDonnell Clark '58** and her husband, Dick (left to right).

1960s



Elena Leone Burrows '66 (left) and **Justyna Steuer Carlson '66** (right) were delighted to meet on Royal Caribbean's *Anthem of the Seas* cruise to Bermuda, St. Maarten, Puerto Rico, and Haiti. In October, Justyna was honored as the 2017–2018 Woman of Achievement by the Northern Berkshire (Massachusetts) Business and Professional Women's Club. The award presentation and dinner meeting were in commemoration of National Business Women's Week.

1980s



Maryl Daltos '82, '93's daughter Ellen Tyndell married **Thomas DiPaolo '12** in November. Marylu received her Ed.D. in Mathematics Education from Montclair State University in August 2017. Her dissertation was titled "Characterizing the 'Realistic-ness' of Word Problems in Secondary Mathematics Textbooks."

1980s



Michelle Toole Georges '83 is in her 27th year as a critical care registered nurse, is doing home hospice cases, and also substitutes for yoga classes. Her daughter Alexa (pictured with Michelle, left) moved to Alexandria, Virginia, and is working with Whole Foods and a pet care start-up company for the family estates in the area. Michelle's son Connor joined the U.S. Air Force for a six-year commitment.



Isabelle Marks Mosca '83 (center) with **Cindy Lisowski '83, '95, '06**, GCU director of data management and prospect research (left) and **Loretta Gerstenberg-Roe '83** (right) were all smiles at the annual FACES 4 Autism SuperHero Walk in Ventnor, New Jersey. FACES 4 Autism, founded by Isabelle, is a nonprofit organization dedicated to education and support of children with autism and their families.



Marcianne Hansen Moe '84 (bottom right) and her cousin **Cristina Field Tregillies '89** (middle row, left) gathered with parents, aunts, uncles, and many cousins at Georgian Court for the 68th annual picnic for the family of the late **Mary Joseph Cunningham, RSM, '53**, former GCU vice president for administrative services.

1990s

Robin Cugini Chieco '92

is the superintendent of the Hammonton School District. She has worked in the district for 30 years in multiple roles, including 19 years as a chemistry teacher, 6 years as the math and science supervisor, and most recently, 4 years as the assistant superintendent.

Theodora Christofi Sergiou '92

GCU lecturer in business administration, was a co-presenter for the "Exploring Our Accountability as Corporate Entities to Help End the Crisis of Violence and Sex Trafficking" presentation during GCU's Critical Concerns 2017.

Stephanie Dalton '94, '02

is an English teacher at Point Pleasant Beach High School. She is also an independent consultant for Thirty-One Gifts.

Jennifer Entrup Grazioso '94

wrote a children's book, *Lucy Lu, Where Are You?* about a dog who loves exploring on walks with her owner, Valerie, but dreams of adventures she could have if she could run free.

Rod Colón '95, and his wife,

Maria Alicia Colón '05, '12,

GCU assistant director of graduate admissions, are proud to announce the birth of their grandson, Rodrigo Alejandro Colón IV.

Patricia D'Elia Komsa '95, '06

is the director of human resources for Lakewood Township. Prior to this, Tricia was the executive director of the Lakewood Development Corporation (LDC) and Urban Economic Zone (UEZ) coordinator—she has worked for the township for almost 18 years.

Karen Walsh '95, '06 is a

preschool teacher at Cedar Hill Preparatory School in Somerset. She continues to work with early intervention.

Jennifer Schlameuss Perry '96

is the parish pastoral assistant for St. Robert Bellarmine Co-Cathedral. She is working with the Department of Evangelization and Family Life to make the parish programs more accessible to families.

Carolyn "Nickie" Kelly

Malanda '97, former Georgian Court soccer player, was inducted into the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC) Hall of Fame. Nickie was the 1996 CACC Player of the Year and received National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) All-America honors during each of her four seasons—including first-team honors in both 1994 and 1995. She led the Lions to 73 wins in 89 tries (73-9-7) over her four years and helped GCU capture three consecutive CACC championships and three straight NAIA National Tournament berths from 1993 to 1995. In the 1994 and 1995 seasons, Nickie helped lead Georgian Court to the NAIA Final Four. She booted in a program-record 103 goals during her career and in 1997, Georgian Court retired her jersey (#16). Nickie was inducted into the Georgian Court Athletic Hall of Fame in 2003.

Daniel Waddington '97, '02

was named the director of youth and young adult ministries for the Diocese of Trenton.

Linda Timofeev Weber '98

was named the 2017 Teacher of the Year in New Jersey's Cranbury School District.

Keri Tarantino Carlton '99

started a new position this past October—she is a senior chemist in the R&D lab at Nitto, Inc. in Lakewood. Keri is the president of the GCU Alumni Board of Directors.

Maureen Kotusky '99

is a graduate counselor in the GCU Office of Graduate and Professional Studies. Prior to this, she was the staff assistant for the Department of Psychology and Counseling.

2000s

Francesca Albergato Muterspaw, Ed.D., '00,

a healthcare consultant at Simple Solution Consulting, was recognized by *Continental Who's Who* as a Pinnacle Lifetime Member in the educational field. Prior to working at Simple Solution Consulting, Francesca was a lecturer at GCU. She is also the published author of works that focus on the role of music in healing and grief processes of bereaved adult learners, pedagogies of song, music in adult education, passion and politics through song, and recalling music to the arts-based debates in adult education.

Courtney Shaw Eidel '01

is the chief compliance officer for Community Options Inc., a nonprofit supporting people with disabilities, based in Princeton, New Jersey. Courtney has worked in human resources for 17 years, 8 of which have been with Community Options.

Nikima Barnhill Muller,

CMC, CMR, '01 obtained the designation of master municipal clerk (MMC) from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks and the designation of qualified purchasing agent (QPA) from the State of New Jersey. Nikima is the municipal clerk and registrar for Mount Holly Township, New Jersey.

Amanda Riker '03

continues to raise money for various charities by organizing Zumbathon events. This past year, she organized multiple events in Pennsylvania and New Jersey in memory of her best friend, Brian, to raise funds for his family. She also dedicates her time as an inductee and board member of the Golden Key International Honor Society and the Psi Chi International Honor Society. She is currently pursuing a Master of Science in Psychology degree with a concentration in applied behavior analysis at Kaplan University.

Mary Ann Altendorf

Collett '04 is co-founder of the Catholic Women of Zion, a ministry to evangelize Catholic women. Its purpose is to help Catholic women open more and more to the Holy Spirit through a deeper commitment of their lives to Jesus as Lord and Savior and to impart the Holy Spirit to one another by their love, service, and sharing the good news of salvation. It provides opportunities that will foster a desire to grow in holiness. Mary Ann also serves as a pastoral associate in St. Mary of the Lake Parish, Lakewood.

Yanci Pereira Merkel '04, '06

and her husband, David, have three daughters: Sophia (9), Anarosa (7), and Gabriella (6)—all of whom love soccer, including the GCU Lions! Yanci is a teacher at Freehold Township High School and also advises several clubs. David is vice president at J. Knipper and Company Inc. in Lakewood, which is where the two met when Yanci was completing a student internship there.

John Spalthoff '04 is the superintendent and principal of the Spring Lake Heights Board of Education. Previously, he was the principal at the Pinebrook School in the Manalapan-Englishtown Regional School District.

David Fusco '05 is the supervisor of the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Program at New Jersey's Red Bank Regional High School. Over the past few years, David resurrected his passion for the performing arts that he left behind in 1995 to pursue a degree in biology. He recently portrayed Gaston in Phoenix Productions' *Beauty and the Beast* at the Count Basie Theatre in Red Bank. He has also appeared in Phoenix Productions' *The Sound of Music* as Captain Von Trapp, *Evita* as Juan Peron, and *The Little Mermaid* as King Triton.

Deborah Kanter '05 is the program coordinator for the Community Service Learning Program of the KinderSmile Foundation. The foundation provides free dental care to underprivileged children in New Jersey and abroad, and advocates for the increase in oral care access and oral health education for low-income children.

2000s



Alexa Melhado '04 is the program coordinator at the Sanctuary Recovery Center in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. She is an advocate for addiction recovery, helping individuals and families heal with dignity.

Carmelina Ortiz '05 is currently writing her first book, *Dream Carrier*, about an immigrant family in their pursuit of the American dream.

Mary Mewherter Workman '05 and her husband, Paul, moved to St. Louis, Missouri, this past year. She is the development services coordinator for SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital Foundation in St. Louis.

Leonie Mattison, Ed.D., '06, '07 has joined the Santa Barbara County human resources team.

Kelly Edinger Filler '07, '11 and **Allison Havemann-Niedrach '07, '16, '17** were named by the Girl Scouts of New Jersey as two of 2017's Phenomenal Women Under 40, sponsored by BlueClaws Charities. The award, better known as the Phenom Award, honors emerging female leaders under the age of 40 from Monmouth and Ocean counties.

(cont'd on p. 37)

How One Alumnus Took a Longer Road to a Bright Future

By Gwen Moran

Corey Wagner never really thought college was for him. He took his first college class nine years before graduating from Georgian Court University in 2015 with a B.S. in Business Administration. In between, he was an entrepreneur, launching his own e-commerce and amateur athletics ventures.

Those businesses, which he started both on his own and with others, were “very small groups where you had to learn a lot of hacks. That’s when I realized that I enjoyed business as a whole,” he says. In the interim, he traveled and worked other jobs to make money.

But when he started dating the woman who would become his wife and began feeling the yearning to build something, he started to get more serious about school. After completing his associate degree at Brookdale Community College, he heard great things about Georgian Court from his girlfriend, Jen Finan (now Wagner), who completed her dual elementary education (K–6) with Teacher of Students with Disabilities certification in 2011. He decided to enroll.

Finding a Home at The Court

After starting his classes, Mr. Wagner immediately found a sense of support and belonging that made him excited to learn. He says he originally went into college thinking that he would focus on mathematics and statistics. Then, he got into photography and video. As he progressed further in his coursework, he found that business—specifically, a focus on marketing—enabled him to combine creativity and analytics, allowing him to put all of his skills and interests to work. Mr. Wagner was able to complete his bachelor’s degree in just three semesters, graduating with a perfect 4.0 grade point average.

“My experience at GCU has been filled with opportunity and support. It’s one of those rare places where you hear less ‘no’ and more ‘sure, let’s try it.’ It’s this type of atmosphere that’s helped foster my newfound desire to learn and to create. My story goes to show that once you find your passion and an environment that allows you to pursue it, nothing can stop you from achieving great things,” he says.



Mr. Wagner with a colleague at Prosek Partners. Photo: Kit Kittle

Big Dreams, Bright Future

Today, Mr. Wagner is a digital media specialist at Prosek Partners, a fast-growing New York City public relations firm. He’s part of a small digital marketing team that has “plenty of room to grow,” he says. The team’s capabilities are increasing, and his role allows him to use that combination of creativity and analytics that attracted him to marketing in the first place, he says. Georgian Court, he adds, gave him good communication skills and the ability to immerse himself in a new technology and learn how to maximize its potential.

“The technical components, like how to run a Facebook ad or advertising campaign, how to look at Google Analytics and bring out some insights—a lot of that you have to just learn within the platform, so it’s not something you’re learning in the classroom. But the foundation—the business sense—that’s what I took away from school,” he says. Prior to working at Prosek, he was a digital marketing coordinator at United Teletech Financial Federal Credit Union, based in Tinton Falls.

While Mr. Wagner’s journey to complete his bachelor’s degree took him nine years, he has no regrets about his experience. In fact, the circuitous route that he took to get his degree, including entrepreneurship and travel, helped him get to where he is today, he says.

“You just have to have faith that whatever path you go down, if you go left three times and right twice, then that’s actually going to end up being a great place,” he says. “Just take in everything you can as you’re going, even if you can’t quite see what the finish line is going to look like.”

(cont'd from p. 35)

The award recognizes young, professional women for who they are and for what they might achieve in their futures. Kelly serves on the board of Big Brothers Big Sisters Ocean County and is involved with Ocean County College's 100 Women Campaign. In addition, she is a board member of the Casey Coyle Memorial Fund and the Ocean County Military Support Committee. She is also chair of the United Way of Monmouth and Ocean Gala Committee. Allison works for Le-Vel, the world's fastest growing health and wellness company. Within 90 days of joining the organization, she became one of its top leaders.

Madeline Kinloch '07

is the principal of St. Joseph Grammar School in Toms River, New Jersey. She had taught there previously, as well as at the parish's high school, Donovan Catholic.

Robin Weiss Kleiber '07

is the principal at Tawanka Elementary School in Lower Southampton, Pennsylvania. Prior to this, she had served as the assistant principal at Penn Valley and Cynwyd Elementary Schools since 2014. Before that, she was an administrator at schools in North Carolina and a teacher in New Mexico and New Jersey.

Jennifer Dellett '08 was named Educator of the Year at Rumson-Fair Haven High School in New Jersey. Jennifer has been teaching at RFH for 10 years; she started as an inclusion teacher and then taught resource English prior to her current assignment in the multiply disabled program.

Additionally, she started a community-based Special Olympics track and field team this year.

Stephanie DiZenzo-

Priestley '08, '12 is pursuing a doctoral degree in counseling at Montclair State University.

MaryAnn Salanitro '09 is an art teacher for the juvenile justice system. She has a six-year-old son, Dylan Ryan King.

2010s

David Kasyan '10, husband of **Jennifer Leahy Kasyan '09**

and son of GCU lecturer Francis Kasyan, Ed.D., is the principal of the largest elementary school in Brick, New Jersey—Emma Havens Young. Previously, he taught special education for five years to students of different instructional abilities, grade levels, and classifications, and served as the assistant principal at Crawford-Rodriguez Elementary School.

Jean Camp '11 is a science teacher for the Pemberton School District. She is pursuing a master's degree at Rowan University and is scheduled to graduate in 2018.

Kyle Galante '11 is the director of religious education at St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Farmingdale, New Jersey.

Courtney Cuevas '12

was named the new head softball coach at Woodbridge High School, New Jersey, where she is also a technology teacher and girls' tennis coach. During her three years at Georgian Court, Courtney played softball and was named to multiple All-Conference and All-America teams.

Gathering of M.A. in Theology Graduates



A number of GCU's M.S. in Theology graduates, most of whom live in the Diocese of Camden, gathered for dinner at Bertucci's in Sicklerville, New Jersey, on August 26. The dinner provided an opportunity for these dynamic leaders in their communities and church parishes to support each other and talk about the meaning of their lives from the perspective of their faith and spirituality. Pictured are Jeanne Sundberg '15; Virginia Horner Wacker '15; Mary-Paula Cancienne, RSM, assistant professor of religious studies; and Tuyen Nguyen '14 (seated, left to right) and Paul Addo '15; Carolyn Messina '16; Gloria Mazzioti '11; Patricia Spruill '14; Irene Clark '17; James Andrews '16; Carroll-Jo Kennedy '11; Brian Ayscue '12; and Maria Carmella Locasale '11 and her daughter (standing, left to right).

New York City Alumni Reception



Alumni from 1945 to 2007 and friends gathered at Guy's American Kitchen in the heart of Times Square for an intimate gathering hosted by the Office of Alumni Relations on November 15. Pictured are Adelaide Ruggiero Roberts '57; Carmelina Ortiz '05; and Florence "Riccie" Riccobono Johnson '45 (seated, left to right) and ToniAnn McLaughlin, director of alumni relations; Meghan Rehbein, director of advancement services; Claude Berhard Maignan '56; Elizabeth "Bess" Healey Mulvihill '66, GCU trustee; Helen Coutros Constantine '65; Sheelia Malinowski Matts '73; Laura Walling; and Linda M. Orlando '07, trustee (standing, left to right).

Class Notes

Jennifer Nemer

Asprocolas '13 is the principal of the G. Austin Schoenly School in Spotswood, New Jersey. Since Jennifer began her career as a fifth-grade teacher, she has worn many hats throughout the Spotswood School District, including special education teacher; teacher of gifted and talented; school testing coordinator for Grades 3 to 5; department chairperson of art, music, and world languages; and extended school year principal. She has been both an Appleby Teacher of the Year and district Teacher of the Year during her tenure.

Melissa Farley Prosperi '13

is the outreach coordinator for the Center at Advanced Behavioral Care Services, LLC, in Lakewood.

Sabrina Regina '13 is the customer service manager for FunNewJersey.com.

Wendell Ferandos '15 was elected to the Toms River Township Council, Ward Three.

Kathia Arango '16 was elected national coordinator for the Hispanic Catholic Charismatic Renewal (CCR) in the United States and Canada. She is the director of the Office for Hispanic Catholics for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, a position she will continue to hold. She also serves as member of the Hispanic Ministry Commission for the Diocese of Camden.

Marissa Harvey '16 is a case worker for St. Francis Community Center.

Christine Hedgebeth '16

is pursuing a Master of Science in Administration of Justice degree, with a concentration in criminal behavior, at Wilmington University.

Moriah Jennings '16

competed, wearing a GCU sash, in the 2017 Miss New Jersey USA pageant.

Samantha Mancino '16,

former GCU alumni office administrative assistant, is the integrated partnerships and social media coordinator for Push the Envelope PR in Freehold.

Taylor C. Merriman, RRT, '16

is an interventional radiologic technologist at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.

Elizabeth Schmalz

Ferguson '16 has been appointed to the board of directors for Applied DNA Sciences, Inc., a provider of DNA-based supply-chain, anti-counterfeiting and anti-theft technology, and product genotyping and DNA mass production for diagnostics. Betsy was selected to serve based on her sterling track record of accomplishments as a strategist and product leader within the cosmetics industry.

Christine Newbury,

current GCU student, was named Ocean County's 2017–2018 Teacher of the Year. Christine has been teaching at Manchester Township High School since 2011. She teaches all levels of science classes in replacement, inclusion, and alternative school settings, and is the chairperson of the technology team and coordinator for the Hawkscape Technology Conference.

New Jersey Education Association Reception



On November 9, alumni, students, and friends gathered at Margaritaville in Atlantic City after the annual NJEA conference. Pictured are Rose Cassidy '20, Brittany Comforte '19, Kristen Meyers '19, Amanda Panariello '18, and Cristina Joule '19.

Calling All Young Alumni

The Office of Institutional Advancement is seeking recent graduates to represent and steward the deep and growing connection between our young alumni and Georgian Court University on a Young Alumni Council. We are seeking enthusiastic individuals to foster communication, event activity, and fund-raising with their fellow young alumni in mind.

Young Alumni Council activities will be team-based, support the goals of the university, and will be directed and supported by the Office of Alumni Relations. In addition to the ongoing committee work and program support, members will participate in conference calls and meet back on campus at least once each year in addition to other volunteer functions.

If you would like more information or to join the Young Alumni Council, please e-mail ToniAnn McLaughlin, director of alumni relations, at tmclaughlin@georgian.edu.



Deanna Briganti '17 and Mark Torlucci '15

Weddings

Jennifer Higgs '00 and
Brandee Moses—8/11/17

Dawn DeBatt '01 and
John Thompson—7/15/17

Amy Bruno '02 and Mary
Drahofsky—4/12/17

Kristin Zummo '08 and
Jeffrey Estremera—5/29/16

Katherine Koar '11 and
Peter Walsifer—6/23/17

Christie O'Connor '11, '13
and Andrew Spiezio—7/15/17*

Thomas DiPaolo '12 and
Ellen Tyndell—11/5/17

Allison Barofsky '15
and Andrew Jeffrey
Sender—10/28/17

Marissa Costanzo '17 and
Joseph Zangrillo—8/12/17*

**Wedding held in the Dorothy
Marron University Community
Chapel on the campus of Georgian
Court University*

Children



Paul and **Amy Swan Eldridge '08**—
Molly Allison, born 10/20/17

Engagements

Dora Mainieri '14 and
JP Palandrano

Samantha McGreevy '14 and
Anthony P. D'Elia

Lindsay Ulrich '14 and
Michael Vincent

Stefanie Levine, current
graduate student, and
Nicholas Buro

SEND YOUR ALUMNI NEWS TO the
Office of Alumni Relations,
900 Lakewood Avenue,
Lakewood, NJ 08701-2697
or alumni@georgian.edu.



Fiah Gussin '05, '06 and
Jacques Kwesseyu—7/3/17



Kelly Brum '06 and
Christopher Crincoli—11/3/17*



Chelsea Minguela '12, '16 and
Ricky Maldonado—7/7/17

In Memoriam

Marie Miele Marucci '44

Eleanor Egan Moloney '46

Eileen Delaney Lynch '47, mother of
Margaret Lynch '75

Barbara Doti Slagle '48

Elizabeth Guinane O'Brien '50

Teresa Somerville Nelson '52

Mary Arthur Beal, RSM, Ph.D., '55,
former dean of the GCU Graduate School
and aunt of **Barbara Beal '77, Janet Beal
Ralston '80, and Michelle Beal '93**

Pauline Bacco Fiorita '56

Mary Shaun Franey, RSM, '56, former
GCU professor of history

Marie Nasello Maio '56

Verna Wilson Peters '58

Patricia Cericola Kurmin '60, mother of
Robin Kurmin Stacy '85

Rosemary Daly Treacy '60

Gloria Garcia, Ed.D., '61

Anne Levine '63, former GCU professor
of French

Lillian Pillitteri Woolley '64, sister of
Katherine Pillitteri Gatt '61

Mary Pagano Carpenter '68

Nora Rogers Stryker '69

Eileen Townsend Russell, RN, '70,
sister-in-law of **Margaret Russell,
RSM, '70, '78**

Mary Donald Cody, RSM, '71

Marylin Ponton Gray '79

Frances Morton '79

Cynthia Stingle Rigglesman '79, sister of
Lori Stingle '76, '90

Nancy Fisher Mackolin '80

Carol Woskey '82

Carol Johnson '83

Madelyn Ruddy '85

Mary Young Schambach '87

Bernadine Coleman Goeppfert '90,
sister-in-law of **Pamela Miller
Coleman '89**

Patricia Lupo '90

Caroline Smolinski Haney '93

Kathleen Kennedy Leather '93

Beverley McNamara Liposky, Esq., '93

Lauren Denninger '98

Eddy Pevovar '03, husband of **Christine
Pevovar '02**

Shaaronette Virgo '05

Joyce Pacelli '07

Joseph Camerlengo '08

Ryan F. Hoblitzell, RN, '12

Chiquitta Glenn '14

Leandro P. Rizzuto, friend of
GCU, and grandfather of **Roxann
Rizzuto-Flanbaum '12**

Condolences

*Georgian Court University wishes to extend
its prayers and condolences to the families
of alumni, members of the university community,
and friends who have passed away.*

Make a Lasting Impact

Do you know that you can support Georgian Court University and benefit both you and your loved ones?

- Make us part of your family and name GCU in your will.
- Avoid estate tax by naming GCU as the beneficiary of your retirement account.
- Get stable, secure income for life with a charitable gift annuity.

Planning a gift in support of GCU will help us continue to transform lives, and may help transform your life or your heirs' lives as well.

Visit georgian.edu/plannedgiving for more information.

Service: Not Just a Core Value

At Georgian Court, service is a way of life. The GCU community gives back in so many ways, whether it's through our service learning requirement or the many food and clothing drives, building homes for those who need them, reading to schoolchildren, or raising money for a number of worthy initiatives. Here are just a few of the ways GCU has given back this academic year.



Incoming first-year and transfer students joined RISE AGAINST HUNGER to fill more than 17,000 prepared meal packets during New Student Orientation. The service could benefit families as far away as Haiti and Madagascar.



Student volunteers assembled Thanksgiving baskets with nonperishable food and gift cards donated by the GCU community for the Office of Campus Ministry's Thanksgiving food drive. The baskets were distributed to Catholic Charities, Interfaith Hospitality, Providence House, and a few members of the GCU community.



GCU's Habitat for Humanity chapter traveled to Dade City, Florida, during winter break, where they worked on deconstruction, construction, and landscaping projects, and worked at the Habitat for Humanity ReStore. The chapter was headed to New Bern, North Carolina, for another project over spring break at press time.



Members of the volleyball team taped President Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D., to the wall as part of their Dig Pink® event. All funds raised went to the Side-Out Foundation, which raises money to fund research initiatives and helps families affected by breast cancer.

#GIVINGTUESDAY™

GEORGIAN COURT UNIVERSITY THANKS YOU!

GCU's fourth Giving Tuesday on November 28, 2017, was an incredible success, thanks to you.

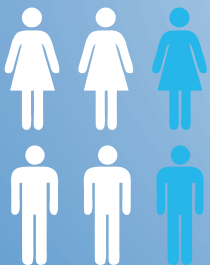
We nearly doubled our goal for the day, which will help even more

GCU students persist toward their goal of a college degree.

2017
↑
2016

102%

increase
in donations
over last year



32%

increase in donors
over last year

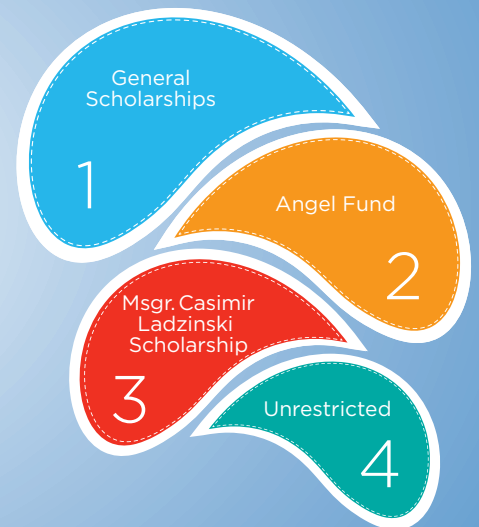
Total Raised

\$28,632

\$18,956

from alumni

4 Funds That
Raised the Most



Missed Giving Tuesday, or want to make an additional gift to support GCU students?

Visit georgian.edu/giving or call 732.987.2232 to make your gift today.